

AUSTRALIAN

NSW STATE LEAGUE P6/7

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SOCCER

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WEEKLY

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**NSW PREMIER GREINER
ACTS AS NSL HOST p3**



**ASF SEEKS NEW NATIONAL
DIRECTOR OF COACHING p3**

**QUEENSLAND FEARS MASS
Walkout of top players**

NSL'S TOP TEAMS



FIRST XI

1. Gibson
2. Davidson
3. de Marigny
4. Blair
5. Ivanovich
6. Gray
7. Polak
8. Adzic
9. Arnold
10. Nastevski
11. Trimboli

SECOND XI

1. Keogh
2. Barrett
3. Grbevski
4. Wheatley
5. Hunter
6. Melta
7. Petersen
8. Crino
9. Lowe
10. Awaritefe
11. Ollerenshaw



ZLATKO NASTEVSKI

NSL COACHES' CHOICES

BY SOCCER EXPERT JOE MARTON

AFTER a sensational season, Marconi's Zlatko Nastevski (5 votes) won ASW's Most Valuable Player poll, followed by Paul Trimboli (3 votes).

Berti Mariani (26 points) is the Coaches' Coach of the Year, followed by Frank Arok (17) and Ivan Raznjevic (15).

Chris Bambridge was voted Referee of the Year (28 points), ahead of Don Campbell (22), with another 10 referees collecting one to six points only.

As in previous years, the coaches had their say in choosing a National Soccer League XI, Most Valuable Player, Coach of the Year and Referee of the Year.

**CONTINUED ON
PAGE 12**

BIGGEST SELLING SOCCER NEWSPAPER RIGHT ACROSS AUSTRALIA

Reform the offenders!

BY PHIL MARTIN

THE NSW Soccer Federation will examine the possibility of instituting a novel scheme in a bid to deal with players who are constantly coming up and being found guilty on disciplinary charges.

At present players reported by a referee go before the Disciplinary Committee in the usual manner.

But officials are concerned that, despite the good offices of the committee in imposing penalties where deemed appropriate, certain offenders still return with monotonous regularity.

Good players receive their reward by being awarded — or at least being considered — for the Fair Play Award.

But the offenders, after being expelled from the game or being otherwise dealt with by the committee, only receives a rap over the knuckles.

If that is insufficient to do the job, then the job is in effect not done.

In civvie street, the person sent to prison finds themselves facing some type of remedial program.

The suggestion has now been raised that the continual soccer offender be given training in the Laws of the Game.

Perhaps he could be

required to attend a referee's lecture, or even to carry on and obtain a referee's badge.

The theory is of course that the miscreant hopefully learns not to carry on with his offences as a player.

Or, in any case, he becomes a valuable member of the soccer community, in that now or later on he can fill the vital referee's

role at junior or senior level.

Every time the scheme is successful the code retains a person's services.

Theoretically the idea has a deal to offer. Just what proportion of continual offenders would attend the lessons and carry on as referees would remain to be seen.

It is thought that the same system might well help in cases of misconduct by coaches and officials.

The proof of the pudding would however be in the eating.

Gutendorf in Vietnam

FORMER Soccer boss Rudi Gutendorf is alive and kicking.

On October 1, he takes on his 42nd coaching assignment — this time in Vietnam.

Gutendorf, now 63,

will also soon become a father.

His Australian wife Marika is expecting their first child in three months.

Gutendorf has just released an autobiography — in German — entitled "I Am A Colourful Dog".



King's Cup for New Zealanders

NEW ZEALAND have stolen a march on Australia by being invited to next year's King's Cup tournament in Bangkok, Thailand.

The tournament will be the All Whites' first international appearance since drawing 2-2 with Israel in Auckland last April.

It will also be their first outing under new coach Ian Marshall



team from the Soviet Union.

Australia, meanwhile, also returns to the international arena at around the same time but against a club side from the USSR, Torpedo Moscow.

Full internationals against Asian countries would have been much more significant, especially since Australia will almost certainly be included in the Asian zone in the next Olympic and World Cup qualifiers following FIFA's decision to downgrade Oceania.

— LOU GAUTIER



IAN MARSHALL

The King's Cup ranks on a par with the Malaysian Merdeka tournament and South Korea's President's Cup as one of Asia's premier soccer events.

Also taking part in the tournament which kicks off on January 26 will be China Malaysia, Indonesia Singapore, Thailand, South Korea and a

PERSONALITY PLAYER



GERRY GOMEZ (Marconi)

POSITION: Attacking-midfielder
HEIGHT: 6'1"
WEIGHT: 75 Kilos
MARITAL STATUS: Single
BIRTHPLACE: Costa Rica.
DATE OF BIRTH: 18.8.60
HOME SUBURB: Bondi
OCCUPATION: Insurance Consultant
PREVIOUS CLUB: Bondi Marines, Sydney City, Marconi
NICKNAME: "Carl Lewis"
CAR: B.M.W.320
BEST FRIEND: Lara my girlfriend.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Seafood, rice and beans
FAVOURITE MUSIC: Soul
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: SBS's World Soccer and Murder She Wrote.
FAVOURITE GROUND: Marconi Stadium
FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYER: Zlatko Nasteovski and Francis Awaratife.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Playing for the Australia against Tottenham Hotspurs in 1985.
BIGGEST THRILL: As above.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not being in the starting line-up for the 1989 Grand Final
WORST INJURY: Lateral cartilage
HARDEST OPPONENT: Robbie Slater.
MOST PROMISING TEAM MATE: Paul Okon
AMBITIONS: To be healthy, happy and to serve Jesus
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Gerry Chaldi and Eddie Thomson.
FAVOURITE OVERSEAS CLUB: Liverpool
FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYER: Careca
PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Jesus
 — compiled by John Economos

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Sick, Sick . . .

BY KEITH GILMOUR

ASW's story "Dastardly bombing in Melbourne" (September 13 issue) gave a graphic illustration of the sub-human fire bomb attacks on three homes — a player, a club official and a journalist.

But even that did not prepare the reader for the visual evidence that appeared last Wednesday on the Nine Network's 6.30 Report.

Viewers, accustomed to violence in the rice paddies of Vietnam, the mountain retreats of Afghanistan and the streets of Beirut, saw homes gutted out and how lives of everyday decent people were put at risk.

It was easily seen just how the perpetrators could be facing murder charges, had the circumstances been slightly different.

Police link the affair to both nationalistic and financial matters, and appealed to senior people who must know something of the miscreants involved to come forward and

assist the cause of justice.

Melbourne City JUST defender Drago Deankovic had his home destroyed, official Alf Bulic's home was gutted and a journalist experienced the same thing.

It was considered that there were those, apparently relatively young, who have knowledge of the sordid affair.

The people who had their property destroyed are considered by some to be too moderate in their political views.

Even if the persons involved are sorted out and convicted, soccer remains the pawn of politics that originate in historic events in Europe and which should have nothing to do with the sport.

Sporting clubs should be just that.

Until soccer is prepared to grasp the nettle and rebuild so that all national backgrounds in the community can take an interest, it will continue to languish.

Golf Day!

SYDNEY's soccer players and administrators will be swapping boots for golf clubs on Thursday, October 19th.

Sportsforce International, organisers of the Liverpool Supporters' Disaster Fund Golf in June, are staging the event for "people with an interest in soccer."

Bonnie Doon Golf Course will be the setting for the new annual event.

A perpetual trophy will be up for grabs with prizes from Mitre and Dint Putters further enticement for players to join in. The best rounds by goalkeepers will win classic tops and gloves donated by Reusch.

After the golf will be an opportunity to discuss soccer over a quality three-course meal at the Bonnie Doon Club House.

Don't worry if you're not a good player, come along for the fun or just attend the evening function.

For entry forms and details, contact Mark Blythe, Sportsforce International, PO Box 1011, Chatswood 2057 Tel: 410 9819.

Obtain



every Wednesday!

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL
 NOW ON SALE AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS
 DON'T MISS IT!

SOCCER GOLF DAY

Bonnie Doon Thursday 19 Oct. '89
 Trophies, Prize, Dinner, Comedian.
 Be in the Inaugural Cup sponsored by Dint, Mitre Reusch, LBW Fin. Services, BAC & The Soccer Post.

Entry Forms — Sportsforce
 P.O. Box 1011, Chatswood, NSW,
 2057. Tel: 410 9819.

NSW Premier breaks ice to host soccer

A very much appreciated function to honour soccer and the NSL grand finalists Marconi and Sydney Olympic was held at the State Reception Rooms in the State Office Block in Sydney last Thursday night.

The host was NSW premier Nick Greiner, who said that it had been "totally inappropriate" that soccer had not been recognised in this way in the past along with the rugby codes.

"The government recognises soccer as a major sport, and sees the summer soccer as a necessary brave experiment in the progress of the game," he continued.

"In addition we want to see soccer provided with grounds which are suitable to promote a first class code.

"We will help the Sydney clubs achieve

the sort of grounds they require, and in particular we are trying to help Sydney Olympic over their present ground troubles.

"Soccer is a major game in Australia, and it is far more so throughout the world compared with rugby union and rugby league.

"The Government would like to thank those who have done important jobs for soccer over the past season, and we look forward to hosting similar functions in future."

Mr Tony Labbozzetta was able to respond in the dual role as NSL deputy chairman and president of the champions, Marconi Soccer Club.

"The premier's interest had chalked up a first, and has demonstrated soccer's arrival at the highest possible level," he said.

— KEITH GILMOUR



CLOCKWISE, from top left: 1. Tony Labbozzetta and Bertie Mariani (Marconi) 2. Marconi's Bobby Catlin, Zlatko Nastevski, Tony Labbozzetta, NSW Premier Nick Greiner 3. NSL staff members Giota Megoulas and David Cooper 4. The Sydney Olympic committee with the Premier 5. Mick Hickman (Olympic assistant coach), John Economos and Keith Gilmour of ASW with Nick Greiner 6. The ladies enjoy the reception, along with Marconi stars Bob Catlin and Robbie Wheatley.



AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FEDERATION

NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF COACHING

The Australian Soccer Federation, a Member of the Federation Internationale De Football Association, desires to appoint a National Director of Coaching.

Applicants should possess Level IV coaching qualifications or the equivalent overseas certificate or diploma.

The Director shall have as a prime responsibility the maintenance and further development of the National Coaching Scheme of the Australian Soccer Federation.

He shall be required to work in association with the Coaching Directors of the respective State Federations and other associated organisations.

An appropriate employment package will be individually negotiated.

Written applications are to be directed to:

**The General Secretary,
Australian Soccer Federation,
36-38 Clarence Street,
SYDNEY. NSW. 2000**

Applications close October 7th, 1989.

Exodus from Queensland growing

BY GREG RUSSELL

THE warning by Brisbane Lions' Frank Liddell that southern teams were set to raid Queensland Soccer came too late.

The floodgates are about to open and the latest crop of Queensland stars are set to follow a well-worn path.

Liddell last week called on the Queensland Soccer Federation to declare its plans for a combined team in the National League after having to shield his grand final side from approaches by three NSL clubs.

Liddell said the southern clubs were wanting to "pick the eyes" out of his team and other leading XXXX League sides.

He predicted they would succeed unless the QSF offered the locals an NSL incentive to stay.

In one of the most prophetic statements of the season, Liddell was to be proven right just 24 hours later when it was revealed two of his players had been approached.

Russell Stewart had received a solid offer from 'down under' club, Blacktown City, while fellow Lions midfielder Nick Meredith received two Sydney approaches — one almost certainly from Sydney Olympic or Marconi.

Easts' Stein Grodum and North Star's Shane Haddow are believed to have attracted

approaches from Sydney Olympic or Marconi.

Liddell said he was not surprised backdoor approaches have been made to his players, and is annoyed their minds may now be on new contracts rather than the grand final on Sunday.

Meredith has not yet been placed on the transfer list, but is expected to command a \$15,000 transfer fee.

The QSF hopes to make an announcement on its plans for 1990 after the grand final.

The Federation has formed a task force to investigate the best method for a combined Queensland entry while another consortium, involving several current and former local soccer identities, also has been working quietly on a NSL entry proposal.

QSF president Wallace Dann said he could understand the clubs' concern in losing players and the Federation was moving as fast as possible towards formulating a final proposal.

"This is an enormous step for Queensland soccer to take and we will only get one go," he said.

"We are currently having meetings with people on the best ownership and financial structure for a combined entry.

"Once the most viable method of running the club is established, we will be able to start putting into place the more novel aspects like an official name and colours, which are the things which attract the most publicity."

The biggest hurdle for any combined Queensland entry is that currently no avenue exists for such a team to be added to the NSL.

Under existing rules, the only way for Brisbane United to get into the 1990 summer season would be to play in the XXXX League next season, winning the premiership, and be the state's club entry in the promotion play-offs against the Victorian and South Australian champions.

But Australian Soccer Federation president Ian Brusasco said Queensland's future could be in their own hands.

"If Queensland could come up with a properly formed and constituted Brisbane United, then the ASF and NSL would have to look very seriously at including them in the competition," he said.

The talented left-footer said if he opts to head south it would be for a long term stint.

"I've had an offer from one of the better NSL sides and if I get my chance there, I doubt whether I would consider coming back next year for Brisbane United, particularly if Bruce Stowell (the current Queensland coach) was not the coach," he said.



Clayton Koch (Pine Rivers) at left, Alan Niven (Mt Gravatt), and Stein Grodum (right) in the Queensland Coca Cola strip.

southern interest and could follow former Queenslanders Steve Jackson, Alan Hunter, Danny Wright, Frank Farina, Jason Polak, John Koch, Manis Lamond, David Ratcliffe, John Stewart, Stephen Glockner and Jon Burgess who headed off in search of greater honors.

"It was inevitable approaches would be made to those players who stayed in Queensland."

"This crop of talent will go unless some-

thing is done quickly," Liddell said.

"There has been a lot of discussion about Brisbane United (the proposed Queensland combined entry in the NSL), but there has not been one solid commitment given yet."

"Our players will be offered long contracts and could not be blamed for signing if National League football cannot be promised in the foreseeable future."

Meredith, 21, said he could be enticed to stay if he could be guaranteed Brisbane United, the popular name for a combined entry, would be in operation next season.

"I can't say no to these offers then find Brisbane United delayed another 12 months at the end of next season," Meredith said.

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Mick Gerritsen (right) of Taringa, appears to defy gravity as he nips in ahead of Coalstars' Frank Byrne.

Ruff Stuff is compounded by stuff and nonsense

BY KEITH GILMOUR

IF ever there was a case of learning but a little on the subject of violence in sport, it was when Peter Couchman made a presentation of the subject on ABC TV last Wednesday night, complete with an audience of interested parties.

Upfront were such experts as rugby league's tautology champ Rex Mossop and ex-coach turned scribe Roy Masters (who somehow broke the boy charged with violence in soccer case in Sutherland Shire Soccer Association — which was subsequently dismissed by the magistrate).

Also constantly on camera was Australian rules former player and coach Ron Barassi, who did at times add to the shining hour.

At his elbow was boxing referee Gus Mercurio, whose statements on violence were quite unrepentant, and in the writer's view, did not match up with the many brain-effected boxers met during a writing career with *Fighter Magazine* some years ago in the sport.

In opposition were representatives of bodies who oppose violence in sport, and who are working in that direction.

Mr Mossop allowed that he favoured biff and bash — and at least his viewpoint in that respect has a certain cloak of respectability.

After all, his statements on the subject

have been consistent down the years.

It is a matter of opinion as to whether he has been consistently wrong, however.

Said Mr Mossop: "If you don't like violence in sport, don't watch it. Rugby league is squeaky clean."

So much for Remy.

Then we come to Mr Masters, who came from rugby league to take his place on the Australian Sports Commission.

Quote: "During this period of clean pure rugby league in Sydney

... " Nuff said.

Rugby league is a game based on extreme toughness, rugby union has never got around to properly addressing the horrific neck and back injuries that occur (refer to the Sydney Royal North Shore Hospital Spinal Injury Clinic), and Australian rules is celebrated for its rough play.

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 8

NSL promotion play-off on holds as VSF decides

BY GREG BLAKE

AS we went to press, the Victorian State League title was still up for grabs.

Morwell Falcons clinched only its second ever title on the first-past-the-post basis when it crushed Ringwood City 4-0 last Sunday but, for the first time in State League history, the championship may be decided in the boardrooms of Soccer House.

Brunswick Juventus, relegated from the NSL in 1988, will take the 1989 title if it is successful in a bid to claim the two points it lost in a 2-1 defeat against Northcote City 10 days ago.

Juventus claims that former Rothmans Medal winner Martin Woodall played for Northcote in that game when he should have been serving a one-match suspension.

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 16

Marconi in Italy

MARCONI are set to embark on a brief four-match European tour.

The NSL Champions will play three games in Czechoslovakia.

The tour will end with a match against Italian First Division side Bologna on Saturday, October 12.

SBS Television is hopeful of televising the game live to Australia — 24 hours before the live telecast of Italy v Brazil in Rome.

— LOU GAUTIER



FRANK LIDDELL

NEW FIREBALL

OLYMPIC

BRAZIL

SOCCER POOLS



THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY
AT 23/9/1989 — WEEK 217



THIS WEEKS MATCH LIST WEEK 218 SAT 30 SEPTEMBER 1989

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ASTON VILLA	DERBY	1
	CHELSEA	ARSENAL	2
	CRYSTAL P.	EVERTON	3
	MAN. CITY	LUTON	4
	MILLWALL	NORWICH	5
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	NOTT'M F.	CHARLTON	6
	SHEFF. WED.	COVENTRY	7
	SOUTH'PTON	WIMBLEDON	8
	BLACKBURN	BARNLEY	9
	BRADFORD C.	SWINDON	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	HULL	NEWCASTLE	11
	IPSWICH	STOKE	12
	OLDHAM	LEICESTER	13
	OXFORD UTD.	BOURNEM'TH	14
	PLYMOUTH	BRIGHTON	15
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	PORT VALE	LEEDS	16
	SUNDERLAND	SHEFF. UTD.	17
	WATFORD	MIDDLESBRO	18
	WEST HAM	WEST BROM.	19
	WOLVES	PORTSMOUTH	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	BLACKPOOL	BIRMINGHAM	21
	BOLTON	MANSFIELD	22
	BRENTFORD	WIGAN A.	23
	BRISTOL R.	READING	24
	CHESTER	FULHAM	25
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	HUDD'FIELD	LEYTON O.	26
	NORTH'PTON	BURY	27
	ROTHERHAM	CARDIFF	28
	SHREWSBURY	CREWE	29
	SWANSEA	NOTTS C.	30
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	WALSALL	PRESTON	31
	ALDERSHOT	SCUNTHORPE	32
	CARLISLE	COLCHESTER	33
	CHESTER'LD	ROCHDALE	34
	GRIMSBY	HEREFORD	35
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	HALIFAX	EXETER	36
	HARTLEPOOL	DONCASTER	37
	MAIDSTONE	CAMB'GE U.	38
	PETERBORO	GILLINGHAM	39
	SOUTHEND	LINCOLN	40
ENGLISH DIVISION 9	STOCKPORT	SCARBORO	41
	TORQUAY	BURNLEY	42
	YORK	WREXHAM	43
	DARLINGTON	KETERING	44
	KID'MINSTER	CHORLEY	45
ENGLISH DIVISION 10	MERTHYR T.	MACCLES'LD	46
	SUTTON UTD.	NORTHWICH	47
	ABERDEEN	CELTIC	48
	DUNDEE U.	ST. MIRREN	49
	HIBERNIAN	DUNF'MLINE	50
ENGLISH DIVISION 11	MOTHERWELL	DUNDEE	51
	RANGERS	HEARTS	52
	AIRDRIE	ALLOA	53
	AYR	PARTICK	54
	CLYDE	HAMILTON	55

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED										NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									
1	23	26	33	41	13	27	41	32	37	1	3	10	1	26	15	3	—	8	1
2	47	44	42	41	42	44	39	5	—	11	12	13	14	15	16	—	—	—	—
3	36	37	33	47	41	43	46	43	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	—	—	—
4	43	49	45	56	48	63	44	49	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	—	—	—
5	48	54	50	57	46	45	—	—	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	—	—	—

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

LAST WEEKS RESULTS WEEK 217 SAT 23 SEPTEMBER, 1989

POOLS RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

Week 217, September 23, 1989.

Total Prize Pool \$150,000.00

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order): 7, 10, 16, 18, 32, 37.

Supplementary Number: 36

Division 1 The Prize Pool is \$118,250.24 No winner — Jackpot Week 218.	Division 3 The Prize Pool is \$14,550.90. 41 winners of \$354.90 ea.
Division 2 There are no winners, therefore the Prize Pool is distributed amongst Division 3 winners.	Division 4 The Prize Pool is \$27,239.10. 1,853 winners of \$14.70 ea.
	Division 5 The Prize Pool is \$21,836.00. 2,060 winners of \$10.60 ea.

RESULTS

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	CHARLTON	1	1-0
	ASTON VILLA	Q.P.R.	2	1-3
	CHELSEA	COVENTRY	3	1-0
	CRYSTAL P.	NOTT'M FOR.	4	1-0
	DERBY	SOUTH'PTON	5	0-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	EVERTON	LIVERPOOL	6	1-3
	LUTON	WIMBLEDON	7	1-1
	MAN. CITY	MAN. UTD.	8	5-1
	MILLWALL	SHEFF. WED.	9	2-0
	NORWICH	TOTTENHAM	10	2-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	BARNLEY	BRADFORD C.	11	2-0
	BOURNEM'TH	BLACKBURN	12	2-4
	LEEDS	SWINDON	13	4-0
	LEICESTER	BRIGHTON	14	1-0
	OLDHAM	WEST BROM.	15	2-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	OXFORD UTD.	IPSWICH	16	2-2
	PORTSMOUTH	MIDDLESBRO	17	3-1
	PORT VALE	STOKE	18	1-1
	SHEFF. UTD.	HULL	19	0-0
	WEST HAM	WATFORD	20	1-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	WOLVES	PLYMOUTH	21	1-0
	BOLTON	LEYTON O.	22	2-1
	BRENTFORD	BIRMINGHAM	23	0-1
	BRISTOL C.	BRISTOL R.	24	0-0
	CREWE	NORTH'PTON	25	2-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	MANSFIELD	BLACKPOOL	26	0-3
	NOTTS C.	ROTHERHAM	27	2-0
	PRESTON	CHESTER	28	5-0
	SHREWSBURY	BURY	29	3-1
	SWANSEA	READING	30	1-6
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	WALSALL	FULHAM	31	0-0
	WIGAN A.	CARDIFF	32	1-1
	ALDERSHOT	STOCKPORT	33	2-1
	BURNLEY	HEREFORD	34	3-1
	CARLISLE	GILLINGHAM	35	3-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	COLCHESTER	SCARBORO	36	0-0
	HARTLEPOOL	PETERBORO	37	2-2
	MAIDSTONE	CHESTERFIELD	38	0-1

*Winning match numbers and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

Get your
Pools in!
It takes only six
numbers to win.

ENGLISH Div 1: Arsenal 1
Charlton 0, Aston Villa 1
Queen's Park Rangers 3, Chelsea 1
Coventry 0, Crystal Palace 1
Nottingham Forest 0, Derby 0
Southampton 1, Everton 1
Liverpool 3, Luton 1
Manchester City 5, Manchester United 1
Millwall 2, Sheffield Wednesday 0, Norwich 2, Tottenham 2.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Liverpool	7	4	3	0	19	3	15		
Chelsea	7	4	2	1	13	7	14		
Millwall	7	4	2	1	14	11	14		
Arsenal	6	4	1	1	11	5	13		
Everton	7	4	1	2	11	9	13		
Coventry	7	4	0	3	7	8	12		
Norwich	7	2	5	0	11	7	11		
Southampton	7	3	2	2	11	12	11		
QPR	7	2	3	2	6	4	9		
Luton	7	2	3	2	5	4	9		
Derby	7	2	2	3	5	7	8		
Cryst Pal	7	2	2	3	5	14	8		
Man City	7	2	1	4	10	10	7		
Man Utd	7	2	1	4	13	15	7		
Wimbledon	7	1	4	2	5	7	7		
Charlton	7	1	3	3	6	6	6		
Aston Villa	7	1	3	3	7	9	6		
Notts Est	7	1	3	3	7	9	6		
Tottenham	6	1	2	3	7	12	5		
Sheff Wed	7	1	1	5	2	16	4		

Div 2: Bournemouth 2, Blackburn 4, Barnsley 2, Bradford 0, Leeds 4, Swindon 0, Leicester 1, Brighton 0, Oldham 2, West Bromwich 1, Oxford 2, Ipswich 2, Portsmouth 3, Middlesbrough 1, Sheffield United 0, Hull 0, Stoke 1, Port Vale 1, West Ham 1, Watford 0, Wolverhampton 1, Plymouth 0.

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Sheff Utd	7	4	3	0	15	7	15		
Blackburn	7	3	4	0	10	6	13		
Brighton	7	4	0	3	15	10	12		
Leeds	7	3	3	1	12	9	12		
West Ham	7	3	3	1	9	8	12		
Sunderland	6	3	2	1	12	7	11		
Oldham	7	3	2	2	11	10	11		
Barnsley	7	3	2	2	9	8	11		
Watford	7	3	2	2	7	8	11		
Newcastle	6	3	1	2	12	9	10		
Plymouth	7	3	1	3	11	8	10		
Ipswich	7	2	3	2	12	12	9		
Oxford	7	2	3	2	11	12	9		
Middlesbrough	7	2	2	3	13	14	8		
Bournemouth	7	2	2	3	13	15	8		
WBA	7	2	2	3	10	12	8		
Wolves	7	2	2	3	10	13	8		
Port Vale	7	1	4	2	6	8	7		
Bradford	7	1	3	3	7	10	6		
Portsmouth	7	1	3	3	6	9	6		
Swindon	7	1	3	3	6	12	6		
Hull	7	0	5	2	9	11	5		
Stoke	7	0	5	2	6	8	5		
Leicester	7	1	2	4	6	12	5		

Div 3: Bolton 2, Leyton Orient 1, Brentford 0, Birmingham 1, Bristol City 0, Bristol Rovers 0, Crewe 2, Northampton 1, Mansfield 0, Blackpool 3, Notts County 2, Rotherham 0, Preston 5, Chester 0, Shrewsbury 3, Bury 1, Swansea 1, Reading 6, Walsall 0, Fulham 0, Wigan 1, Cardiff 1, Tranmere 4, Huddersfield 0.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Shrewsbury	6	4	1	1	14	8	13		
Bristol Rovers	6	4	1	1	8	3	13		
Tranmere	6	4	0	2	12	5	12		
Birmingham	6	4	0	2	8	4	12		
Bristol City	6	3	2	1	7	3	11		
Bury	6	3	2	1	11	8	11		
Fulham	6	3	2	1	7	4	11		
Bolton	6	3	2	1	6	3	11		
Huddersfield	6	3	2	1	9	10	11		
Rotherham	6	3	1	2	10	7	10		
Reading	6	2	3	1	11	6	9		
Ley Orient	6	3	0	3	10	9	9		
Notts Cty	6	2	2	2	8	7	8		
Northampton	6	2	2	2	6	5	8		
Walsall	6	2	2	2	7	8	8		
Blackpool	6	2	1	3	5	6	7		
Crewe	6	2	1	3	9	11	7		
Mansfield	6	2	0	4	3	8	6		
Chester	6	1	2	3	7	14	5		
Preston	6	1	1	4	12	15	4		
Wigan	6	0	4	2	3	7	4		
Swansea	6	1	1	4	4	13	4		



Div 4: Aldershot 2, Stockport 1, Burnley 3, Hereford 1, Carlisle 3, Gillingham 0, Colchester 0, Scarborough 0, Hartlepool 2, Peterborough 2, Maidstone 0, Chesterfield 1, Scunthorpe 5, Exeter 4, Torquay 1, Rochdale 0, Wrexham 0, Lincoln 2, York 0, Grimsby 1, Cambridge United 1, Halifax 0, Doncaster 0, Southend 1.

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Southend	6	5	1	0	15	3	16		
Lincoln	6	5	1	0	9	1	16		
Stockport	7	3	3	1	12	5	12		
Grimsby	6	3	2	1	11	5	11		
Burnley	6	3	2	1	6	3	11		
Carlisle	6	2	4	0	11	7	10		
Exeter	6	3	2	1	11	8	10		
Chesterfld	6	3	1	2	8	6	10		
Peterboro	6	2	3	1	8	5	9		
Hereford	6	2	3	1	8	6	9		
Halifax	6	2	2	2	11	7	8		
Wrexham	7	2	2	3	9	9	8		
York	6	2	2	2	4	5	8		
Scarbore	6	2	2	2	6	8	8		
Sunderthorpe	6	2	1	3	9	8	7		
Rochdale	6	2	1	3	5	8	7		
Maldstone	6	2	0	4	7	9	6		
Gillingham	6	1	3	2	2	7	6		
Cambridge	6	1	2	3	4	6	5		
Colchester	6	0	5	1	7	10	5		
Aldershot	6	1	2	3	3	10	5		
Torquay	6	1	1	4	3	11	4		
Hartlepool	6	0	1	5	3	20	1		



Canberra Croatia's Ray Junna.

Brown nets goal as Melita enters final

AN injury to an opponent meant that Greg Brown was not a happy man after scoring the only goal of the game against Wollongong Macedonia at Melita Stadium last Wednesday night.

That goal was enough to send his side into yet another State League grand final.

"I did not see him, it was just an accident," Brown said as he sat in Melita's dressing room after the game.

In the meantime, Adam Sandy, the Wollongong Macedonia midfielder, was taken to hospital with a neck brace fitted and his face cut and swollen as a result of an attempted scissors kick by Brown in the 72nd minute.

Brown, with his head facing his end of the field, lashed out at the ball without taking into account that Sandy was rushing in to head the ball out.

Sandy went down, and then the game was stopped for a few

minutes while he was led away.

But the bitterness of the injury remained after the match, despite the fact that the two sides had played out a memorable encounter.

Neither side took a backward step, with Macedonia having an edge in the first and Melita controlling in the second period.

Brown hit the woodwork in the 58th minute, but what is new — he does that on weekly basis.

He came ever so close in the 77th minute after combining with Aytel Genc but placed his shot wide of the post, before scoring the all-important winning goal seven minutes later.

He slipped past Macedonia's defence and then chipped the advancing Craig Burchmore.

MELITA EAGLES: McPherson, Williams, Meerbani, Barrios, Gonzalez, Callanan, Dickinson (Cabassi), Gimenez, Versi (Genc), Cerro, Brown.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: Burchmore, Cavanah, Shaw, Wilson, Bourke, Kay, Sandy (McKie), Bradley (Thornthwaite), Caban, Fletcher, Galloway.

Australians go well in Greece

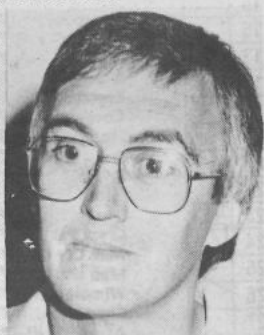
BY PHIL MARTIN

SYDNEY OLYMPIC coach Eddie Thomson, due back in Sydney on Thursday, was completely taken aback by the standard of the games he witnessed whilst on stopover in Greece.

Said Thomson: "I've been very, very surprised by the standard of skills and technique of the players.

"In style they are more individual than team players, but when I watched the game between Panathinaikos and Ethnikos I found that there wasn't much difference between them, which indicates a very good competition.

"They are much higher in standard than us in Australia, and are much more comfortable on the ball.



"The atmosphere was tremendous...electric.

"Chris Kalantzis in the first half produced the best football I have ever seen him play.

"He is a much better player than he was when he left Australia thanks to the fulltime training.

"On what I saw, he should just about walk into the Aussie team.

"I watched Lou Hristodoulou twice for about 20 minutes each. He looked good too, but you need more time to see him.

"He was very competitive and I think he will be a regular there (at Panathinaikos), given

another six months maybe.

"Jason Polak came on as a replacement in one game.

"I watched him in training, and for me he is the best of the foreign players.

"He is as good as any player in the club.

"I think Jason will definitely make it. I spoke to the coach, and he has got no qualms whatsoever about him.

"All he needs is a bit of time to acclimatise.

"Many players here don't get back behind the ball but Jason's work rate is fantastic.

"I think he will be a big player.

"Fulltime training will help him, and Panathinaikos have done everything for the player.

"He's got no excuses if he doesn't make it here.

"Haniotis has had an injury and his whole feet are covered with blisters after playing in boots with studs on a dirt ground.

"He is anxious to show the Apollon coach how good he is.

"George Bouhoutsos is training very hard, but the two goalkeepers at Panathinaikos are fantastic — George is set to take over from the older guy.

"The goalkeeping coach is very keen on him because he works so hard.

"George has a big future here — no problem with him.

"I am sure that all the Australians will be older men before they come back.

"Personally I have enjoyed my stay here, but I still have a lot to do over the next three years back at Olympic.

"Only after then would I be prepared to consider going anywhere else.

"It is great in Greece where soccer is No 1."



Canberra Croatia's winning under 19 side.

Perinovic is back

Marko Perinovic, last season's top goal scorer, returned to the forward line in the first NSW State League semi-final to score twice and set up the other two in a 4-0 romp over Avala at Melita Stadium.

Tom Sermanni, Croatia's captain-coach, must rue his decision to switch the big striker to midfield at the halfway mark of the season.

By round 10 Perinovic had seven goals to his name and at that rate he would have finished the season with 18-20 goals, only slightly less than last year.

Then came the big switch and the tall striker did not score once in the remaining twelve matches!

With Gary Cole unavailable to play against Avala, it was time for Perinovic to return to the forward line.

His finishing was lethal.

He latched onto a Doug Marcina cross in the 58th minute to slam in an unstoppable 10 metre header to put the issue beyond doubt.

Next he took possession some twenty metres from goal to unleash a fierce left footer which left Avala keeper Greg Woodhouse groping in thin air.

To add to Avala's

woes Perinovic was also in a creative mood.

He raced away on the right flank midway through the first half before placing his cross in the right place for Tony Lemeza to head into the net.

Soon after the restart Perinovic drew a few players before sending player-coach Sermanni into the clear and Woodhouse could not stop the ball once again.

Avala, the only team to beat Canberra Croatia this year twice, failed miserably despite having a huge 'crowd advantage'.

With only Miodrag

Radovic, Tony Henderson and Chris Ackerley showing signs of inspiration, Avala found it very difficult to break through the strong Croatian defence.

To add insult to injury Avala lost its full-back Paul Quarmby close to the end, being sent off for dissent.

CANBERRA CROATIA: Gunning, Junna, Mazis, Dunn, Young, Kulcsar (Dukic), Sermanni, Marcina, Perinovic, Reis (Glavinic), Lemeza.

AVALA: Woodhouse, Quarmby, Brockbank, Henderson, Ashton, Gendle (Benitez), Berry (Dragomirescu), Driene, Ackerley, Radovic, Fitzharris.

NEW SOUTH WALES SEMI FINALS

STATE LEAGUE ONE

1ST GRADE

Melita Eagles v Wollongong Macedonia 1-0

Canberra Croatia v Avala 4-0.

UNDER 19

Canberra Croatia v Canterbury 4-1

Melita Eagles v Avala 3-0

1ST GRADE

Melita Eagles v Canberra Croatia 2-0

UNDER 19

Canberra Croatia v Melita Eagles 1-1 (5-4 penalties)

FEDERATION LEAGUE THREE

1ST GRADE

Rosebery Portugal v Central Coast 3-1

2ND GRADE

Mt Pritchard v Central Coast 2-1

FEDERATION LEAGUE FIVE

1ST GRADE

SSC Zagreb v Concord Juniors 1-0

2ND GRADE

Concord Juniors v Sydney University 2-0

FEDERATION LEAGUE SEVEN

1ST GRADE

Pagewood Botany v Balmain PCYC 2-0

2ND GRADE

St Josephs v Liverpool Olympic 2-1



6th SYDNEY ETHNIC SOCCER WORLD CUP GARSDALE PARK-GRANVILLE

SATURDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER GRAND OPENING CEREMONY

3PM Nth Cyprus Turkish vs Australia (Group 4)

5PM OPENING CEREMONY

7PM Chile vs Nicaragua (Group 1)

SUNDAY, 1st OCTOBER

9.30AM Romania vs England (0/35)
11.00AM Chile vs El Salvador (0/35)
12.30AM El Salvador vs Brazil (Group 4)
2.15PM Italy v Uruguay (Group 3)
4.00PM Turkey vs Romania (Group 3)

MONDAY, 2nd OCTOBER

9.00AM Paraguay vs Italy (0/35)
10.30AM Spain vs Greece (0/35)
12.15PM Nth Cyprus Turkish vs Germany (0/35)
1.30PM Argentina vs Uruguay (0/35)
2.45PM Argentina vs Lebanon (Group 1)
4.00PM Macedonia vs Spain (Group 2)



Melita Eagles supporters celebrate their promotion to the NSL in style after beating Canberra Croatia in the NSW State League a fortnight ago — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

Future is bright if Canberra strengthens

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THE NSW State Soccer League championships may be settled for 1989, but Canberra Croatia player-coach Tom Sermanni is still setting targets.

"Obviously there is disappointment and deflation throughout the squad over missing out on promotion — I feel it myself," he said.

But he rejected suggestions that the failure was a disaster for Croatia.

"Given that the club was on the verge of going out of existence last season, we have made a startling recovery," he said.

"We are now back to where we were in 1987 when we also finished second.

"But we have the added advantage of being in a stable environment with a team which is still not quite at its peak.

"Obviously, there will need to be some new blood.

"We will probably

lose Gary Cole, who is keen to get into NSL coaching; Peter Gunning is moving to Sydney and I am just about due to retire from the playing scene.



TOM SERMANNI

"Our major fault this season was a tendency to give away silly goals, so the defence will have to be strengthened."

He believed that Croatia was no more than "two or three shrewd signings" away

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from a place in the 1990-91 NSL.

"If we can obtain the kind of good quality player who will fit into the pattern and team atmosphere we have developed here, there is no reason why we cannot win the championship next year," he said.

"If you want a key

word for a successful team it is stability. Sydney City had it and dominated soccer for years, and Marconi has it now.

"That doesn't mean freezing everything in time, and nor does it mean changing the team every time someone Miskicks in a game either."

Under 19: CANBERRA ON PENALTIES

CANBERRA Croatia under 19 team came from behind to take the grand final by defeating Melita on penalties 5-4 at Melita Stadium.

It was 1-0 to Melita after 19 minutes with Walter Ardone scoring. Tony Pangallo equalised four minutes into the second half with a fine hook shot which stunned Tony Marco.

With seconds remaining, Philip Vasic missed with an easy header and the game went into extra-time.

In the last minute of extra-time, Luka Ujdur hit the crossbar and the ball landed at the feet of Elvis Glavinic who got tangled up and could not find the net from some four metres away.

Penalties were then taken.

Croatia scored through its replacement with No 14 on his back but not listed in the team sheet! We presume it was Arvanites.

Melita equalised through Daley.

Toni Marco saved from Pangallo and Croatia were behind again. Ardone steered Melita to a 2-1 lead, Sasha Jancevski equalised, then Alvaro

Barrios clinches it for Melita Eagles

ALFREDO Barrios, Melita's tall defender, scored the goal that decided the Grand Final at Melita Stadium last Saturday afternoon with Melita Eagles winning 2-0 against Canberra Croatia before 2,800 spectators.

Barrios, assigned to keep Marko Perinovic out of the game, did his job to perfection, rarely allowing himself the time to go forward in search of an opening.

However, with Melita leading 1-0 and Barrios in possession on the half-way line all that was going to change.

The tall Argentine took off like a hare. He delivered a low pass to his hard-working midfielder Aytek Genc, then raced into the penalty area to accept a return pass before slamming his right footer high under the crossbar.

It was his first goal of the season and certainly one of the finest seen in the State League this year.

There was no stopping Melita from there and the crowd, unusually quiet until then, opened up with a song and dance routine in the grandstand.

Melita's triumph in the premiership and in the grand final came after some astute

coaching by Raul Blanco. His decision to give Barrios the job of keeping Perinovic quiet was set to misfire as the tall Canberra Croatia striker showed his aggression early.

However, Barrios was able to defuse any fire that was in Perinovic, not allowing him any room close to the penalty area. In the first half Perinovic was restricted to a single header and that came very late in the period.

If there was any criticism of Barrios, it was in the form of a very late tackle on Perinovic in the first half as well as a 'dive' midway through the second which earned Perinovic a yellow card!

Gary Power, the referee, had his back to the incident and when he turned around Barrios was on the ground and Perinovic, with his arms high the only other player near the fallen 'victim'.

And while Barrios and his fellow defenders Washington Gonzalez and Jemal Meerbani had exceptional matches, Canberra's defence made an unusual number of errors which Melita failed to exploit fully.

Paul Rago, Melita's surprise packet for the grand final, had an



opportunity as early as the fourth minute. Greg Brown broke through, drew the only defender left and sent Rago goalwards, but the youngster made a mess of it, racing wide instead of straight and in the end managed to only win a corner kick for Melita.

From the resultant corner kick Andrew Callanan was left free to aim and head inches over the bar from a situation that is usually tailor-made for this exciting young player.

Callanan was to make amends soon after.

Yet another counter by Melita and Brown was in the clear again. His right foot drive was fumbled by Peter Gunning and Callanan raced in to roll the ball over the line under pressure from a defender.

One up, Melita continued to stay back and rely on counter-attacks, creating another solid opportunity just five minutes later.

Brown was in the clear again and his shot from an angle hit the side netting.

Canberra managed to get close towards the end of the first period with Stan Dukic crossing and Jason Dunn getting ever so close to scoring with his low header.

Then came that superb effort by Barrios midway through the second half — and the ball game was over.

MELITA EAGLES: McPherson 7, Williams 7, Meerbani 8, Barrios 9, Gonzalez 8, Callanan 7, Dickinson 5 (Cabalasi 58th - 6), Gimenez 6, Rago 5 (Farrugia 79th), Genc 6, Brown 6.

CANBERRA CROATIA: Gunning 6, Junna 8, Mazis 7, Dunn 6, Dukic 6 (Cole 66th - 5), Kulcsar 5, Sermanni 7, Marcina 6, Perinovic 6, Reis 5, Lemzina 6.

Referee: G. Power 8. Crowd: 2800.

New player agency opens

BY KEITH GILMOUR

SOCCER identities Alex Robertson and Charles Mifsud have joined forces to establish an agency for players, operating from Sydney.

Robertson, the ex-Sydney City defender, former Scottish professional and Melita Eagles captain, and Mifsud, a former well known official with Melita Eagles, believe they have a lot to offer to both clubs and players.

Yesterday Charles Mifsud said: "Alex Robertson is used to the game both here and overseas.

"His expertise comes from long experience,

and he also had eight games for the Socceroos against visiting club teams.

"Between us we can cover every aspect of the game — importing quality players, acting for local players wishing to go overseas, representing players here and so on.

"All this year we have been gathering information from overseas agents and Players Unions, and obtaining the best of advice from our solicitors and accountants.

"Any player wanting representation will find that we can do the best possible job for him."

Mr Mifsud said they

have many players already on their books with First Division or Premier League experience in their home countries.

"In addition we have players who have appeared as full internationals and at youth level in both Britain and the continent," he added.

The firm will be happy to deal with clubs at both NSL and State level.

In addition they can handle the securing of guest players for Australian clubs.

Contact can be made with Alex Robertson on 344 5616 or Charles Mifsud on 772 3164.

Australian Soccer Players Agency



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Finals are the way to go

BY MIKE JOHNSON

THIS has been the time for "finals" all over Australia.

For more than 100 years, footballers in all codes in Australia have battled through each season just to make these extra-special games — the finals.

And for more than a decade, soccer at professional level has foolishly tried to bury these finals.

Flying in the face of a tradition which is unique to this country, soccer in recent years has given little or no importance to the finals, saying "first past the post is the true winner."

Now this may be so, but the reality of things is that this year, without any finals, Marconi would have wiped out all interest in the National League championship at the half-way stage.

By that time it was obvious no team would catch runaway leader Marconi and there is little interest in also-rans in sport.

However, as it was, more than a half of the league's teams were in with a chance of making the final five almost to the last game of the season, whilst the others were locked in a gripping relegation battle.

Then came the momentous games: St George v Marconi, Sydney Olympic v Melbourne Croatia, Sydney Olympic v St George and, of course, Marconi v Sydney Olympic in the grand final and that colourful crowd of 23,000-plus at Parramatta Stadium.

It is the big games, the big crowds, the big occasions that stay in the memory.

Zlatko Nasteovski will never forget that last-minute grand final header high into the net at Parramatta Stadium against Sydney Olympic.

Neither will those fans packed behind Gary Meier's goal, or the hundreds of thousands who watched that very special moment on ABC television.

Wollongong area fans have never forgotten South Coast United's great 4-0 win against Apia 26 years ago, with a record Australian club crowd of 30,150 there to watch it all.

Of course, it was a grand final.

I played in that grand final for fourth placed South Coast United against an all-conquering Apia, whom we killed off with three goals in the first 15 minutes at the old Sydney Sportsground.

None of those who played, or those who watched, will ever forget that.

A few days ago I had another "finals" experience, coaching my club, third placed Southern Districts against first placed Rosebery in the NSW Third Division semi-final.

It will always be remembered by the players, spectators and myself for the penalty shoot-out.

It was only my second experience of a penalty shoot-out.

The first was while coaching St George, some years back, in a season-opener Charity Shield-type game, against Marconi.

We had some great spotkickers at St George, especially Atti Abonyi, who that year was to take his total to 13 consecutive successful penalty kicks.

We beat Marconi on penalty kicks.

Each of the successful spotkickers would help take Australia through to the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany that year, such was the strength of St George at that time, built up previously by a young, dynamic Frank Arok.

Against Rosebery it was different.

For our inexperienced 17-year-old goalkeeper the shoot-out was a strange, new happening, despite the many penalties he had faced during our last training session.

Our colourful fans were massed behind the goal as our first penalty kicker, John Gregson, hammered the ball into the net to a great shout of triumph.

Then they scored.

Next for us came Birrol Sertbas, who had scored with all eight spotkicks in the season.

Their goalie saved our champion's firmly hit shot and deadly quiet overcame our supporters.

They scored again.

Their goalie saved again.

So did ours, bringing renewed cheers and hope to our supporters.

Then came our striker Oscar. He had forgotten how to score late in the season and the touch did not return as his spotkick sailed harmlessly high and wide.

That was it! What a limp way to lose.

A lone supporter gave vent to his anger, but the rest sportingly applauded us despite their disappointment as Indian-file we wandered slowly back to the dressing room and sank onto the benches.

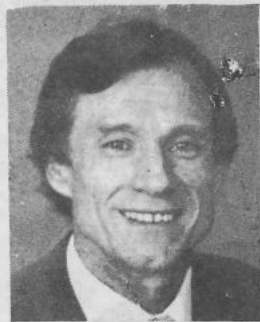
Their victory song next door reverberated off the roof.

I felt like throwing a bucket of water over them.

What a way to lose!

After three momentous 1-1 draws during the season against them, what a way to lose!

It is the win that usually stays in our minds, but it will be a while before some of



us will forget those meek, anti-climatic last few minutes after months and months of striving.

Such is sport and such is life.

Yugoslav visit likely

BY LOU GAUTIER

INDICATIONS are the Yugoslav national team may visit Australia later this year.

That's the news Soccer boss Frank Arok brought home last week after a two-week trip to Novisad for the wedding of his daughter.

The Yugoslav First Division goes into its annual winter recess in December and January and Yugoslav national team coach Ivica Osim is keen to arrange games in a warm climate.

Although Osim would not be able to call on several of his first team regulars, who will be required by their European clubs, Yugoslavia would still be able to field a formidable side as illustrated by their emphatic 3-0 win over Greece in Novisad last week when they only fielded players operating at home.

Though the games against the Socceroos would be full A internationals, the Yugoslav team would be equal in strength to the team Australia beat 1-0 at the 1988 Olympic finals in South Korea.

Players like Katanec, Badzarevic, Vujovic and several others may be unavailable, but the best Yugoslav of all, Dragan Stojkovic, would certainly be in the touring party — and his presence alone will make the tour a roaring success as he is one of Europe's very best players.

The Yugoslavs would like the tour to take place between December 19 and January 5.

Arok, not surprisingly, is keen to have his Socceroos in action as soon as possible as they haven't played since the 1-1 draw with Israel in April 16.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

It is appropriate to note early in the piece that the insurance companies, who aim to make a book to profit on the business they write, recognise that soccer is a much less dangerous code than its 'football' competitors.

The NSW Sporting Injuries Commission has come up with its rating on sports for danger.

Topping the list on a one to five rating are rugby, gridiron, hang gliding and motor racing with five points.

Next on four points are Australian rules, skateboarding and skiing.

After running through hockey, cricket, netball, touch football etc they arrive at soccer in the lowest injury rating of one point, along with fishing, athletics, golf, swimming and tennis.

On live switch to Sydney, NSL general manager Peter Russell championed soccer's case, as did Jim Freedman for rugby union.

Dr Roy Hay, the keen soccer buff from Deakin University, made a point or two.

Roy considered that the existence of violence was a factor in reducing the numbers playing junior soccer in Victoria by 1500 over the last five years.

He even managed to instance three cases when officials set upon players, and felt that sport would be the loser if police interference became greater.

Roy Hay seems to be one of the few Victorian soccer people that have ever addressed the question of the paucity of numbers of juniors playing soccer in Victoria... more power to his arm.

But, regardless of whether there is any lack of discipline affecting numbers playing junior soccer in Victoria, violence is peripheral to the real problem.

Having put the case for Victoria to install the successful NSW and Queensland system to increase the number of juniors for the past 40 years and more and seen NIL progress — and even regression — perhaps the Australian Soccer Federation could arrange a seminar to help them.

The Junior Council has been entirely ineffective in getting any sort of message across. What is their job? Just to run national championships?

Anyway, the issue of violence in sport won't go away, and the pressure is on to see that it is decreased.

Look at it this way. Once the greenies were laughed at.

Today it is clear that the good points have to be sifted out of their message and put into effect.

So if will be with sport violence.

Sports will have to administer disciplinary matters even more carefully still, after allowing that the improved standard of control in this area has been remarkable over recent years and that soccer has a good record.

The door of the courts lies open to handle matters such as assault and damages. They will be utilised more and more in the future, but it is up to sports such as soccer to ensure that they can control the general run of affairs and keep as much as possible within the camp.

Mention was made of the angle of "evening up".

Keep the sport as clean as possible, and the over-aggressive will be kept within decent bounds.

Reference was made by one lady in the audience to the existence of hypocrisy of some of the people present dealing with the situation.

You can bet your sweet bippy she wasn't far wrong.



Yugoslavia's Zlatko Vujovic

NSL to tidy up draws

THE NSW NSL clubs met in Sydney last night to straighten up the draws list for the coming season.

Melbourne clubs and Adelaide City have their say in Melbourne to-morrow (Thursday).

A number of clubs have made it obvious that they will raise the roof to get their way on the matter of suitable playing dates.

There are some interesting preferences.

In Sydney, Croatia prefers Sundays, would face up to Fridays, but Saturdays and Wednesdays are an abomination.

Sydney Olympic overwhelmingly prefers Sundays, followed by Fridays and Saturdays.

St George is ex-

pected to find Fridays acceptable as well as Sundays, whereas at this stage Blacktown City is inclined to feel that their best bet will be on Saturdays.

The pilots' strike is playing the very devil with meetings of the Australian Soccer Federation commissioners.

Postponements have been the order of the day, and a deal of the business has been carried out by mail and telephone.

The next hoped for meeting will be on Friday, October 6.

At this stage the ASF is working to have international commitments in place as soon as the NSL season ends.

— KEITH GILMOUR

FRANK AROK'S ST GEORGE



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JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

State Sports Centre target for JHNISL

THE James Hardie National Indoor Soccer League has a problem.

Sold-out crowds at last week's round of matches in Sydney and Melbourne means the JHNISL has to look for bigger and better venues, especially for its finals series in December.

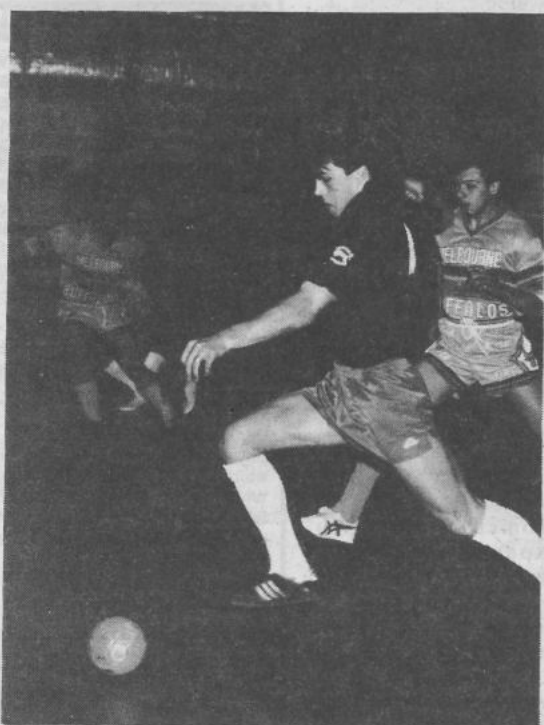
Though the crowds are nothing earth-shattering — 1100 at Fairfield and 500 in Melbourne — it does create one huge headache for Joe Brent and Company.

There are moves to book the State Sports Centre in Sydney for the final series for December 8/9, giving the league a great opportunity to show its game off to the Sydney sporting public.

There are even suggestions to move some of the later rounds to the bigger stadium.

Because at the moment indoor soccer, national league style,

BIGGER VENUES NEEDED



Milan Blagojevic in full cry — his talent may soon attract a wider audience — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

has gone as far as it can

go.

The crowds to date make some of our NSL crowds look pale in comparison and all that is with a minimum of media coverage.

According to Brent, the JHNISL is going to put all its efforts into staging a first-class final series where mainstream media, VIP and the business community can be accommodated in comfort.

With the Sydney Kings moving to the Entertainment centre,



the State Sports Centre at Homebush is keen to come to an arrangement with the JHNISL.

Skill factor

With all the talk in local soccer circles on skill, I am surprised none of the proponents of skill bother to take in the indoor scene.

My own association with the indoor game followed a study tour of Brazil back in 1984.

I did not know indoor soccer existed in their country before my trip, and it was only on my return that I met the local indoor people.

My impression in Brazil, an impression which has intensified since my return, is that indoor soccer, or futsal, in the greatest skill development game for the outdoor variety.

The sooner all kids are brought up on this tremendous game, the sooner we will produce more skilled outdoor players.

Apart from the skill factor, it is in the entertainment field that indoor has the poten-

Follow all the Soccer action every week with AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY. We bring you the local scene — at all levels — and the world. Order your copy at your newsagent now!

tial to succeed.

Twenty first century laws of the game such as time limits on the goalkeeper when in possession, a blue card system where a player

may be sent off AND replaced, and high scoring are all factors which lend indoor soccer constant entertainment.

If the JHNISL can pull off a successful final series at the State Sports Centre, indoor soccer, Australian style, could well emulate the fantastic feats of Australian basketball.

ALAN POTTIER



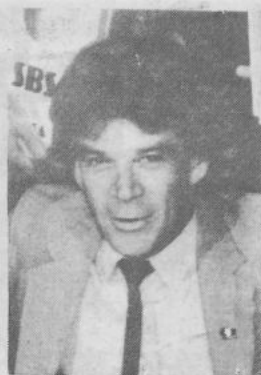
St George Promotion

St George is close to signing a substantial promotional deal with the "St George and Sutherland Shire Leader" to promote "summer soccer".

Saints meanwhile don't plan any signings for the November kick-off despite the loss of David Ratcliffe and Alan Pottier.

Inter Monaro will be hoping to put some credibility into their home stadium motto — "The Graveyard — they come to Canberra and we bury them," when they return to the City YMCA for next weekend's round of JHNISL matches.

Inter Monaro were annihilated by White Eagles at the "Graveyard" two weeks ago.



ANOTHER blow to Australian soccer is the decision by the NSW Rugby League to experiment, American football style, with coloured markings up and down the field at five metre intervals.

This means the Sydney Football Stadium, Parramatta Stadium and so on will be coloured from touchline to touchline with more ground markings.

So apart from poor surfaces, confusing ground markings, soccer when it needs the stadiums, will have to put up with coloured fields.

A nightmare when the ASF wants to stage big events.

MARSHALL Soper, the enigma of Australian soccer, is still rumoured to be joining Apia despite the club's denial to replace John Kosmina.

Not surprising when new Apia boss Manfred Schaefer has been the only coach over the years to get the best out of Soper.

Some of the biggest names in our game have been unable to get Marshall to play consistently well.

Schaefer did it at Olympic.

For the sake of the game one hopes Manfred can do it again for there is little doubting Marshall can be a big personality in the NSL next season.

How soon they forget...

I was a little put out not to rate a mention in the recently issued history of the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup.

I say this as I was solely responsible for linking the Commonwealth Bank with the High Schools competition and regard this contribution highly in my days in our great game.

Back then, the CHS, the organising committee of the High Schools Tasman Cup, were desperate for funding.

I was able to link the CHS with the Commonwealth Bank, a corporation noted for its long-term involvement with junior sport.

Acknowledgement of that fact some eight years down the track would have been appreciated.

SOUTH MELBOURNE

THIS week Greg Blake spotlights the South Melbourne and Sydney Croatia club record since the NSL began in 1977. Other club statistics will be slotted in over future issues. All NSL league, Cup and finals matches have been recorded.

OPPONENT	HOME	AWAY	FINALS	CUP	TOTAL	RECORD WIN	RECORD DEFEAT
Adelaide City	13 8 3 2 17 9	13 3 4 6 12 18	N/A	2 1 0 1 5 4	28 12 7 9 34 31	5-0 1978 (home)	0-3 1982 (home) & 1979 (away)
APIA	8 6 2 0 15 8	8 2 2 4 9 13	N/A	N/A	16 8 4 4 24 21	3-1 1982 (home)	0-4 1987 (away)
Blacktown	3 2 1 0 8 2	3 1 2 0 7 4	N/A	N/A	6 3 3 0 15 6	5-0 1980 (home)	N/A
Heidelberg	13 5 5 3 17 9	12 4 3 5 15 22	2 1 0 1 5 6	7 1 1 5 8 13	34 11 9 14 45 50	4-1 1981 & 1989 (both homes)	0-3 1977 (away)
Marconi	10 5 0 5 14 13	10 2 5 3 11 16	3 1 0 2 7 8	1 1 0 0 4 1	24 9 5 10 36 38	4-1 1980 (away) & 1987 (cup)	0-6 1979 (away)
Melb. Just	7 4 1 2 9 8	6 4 1 1 10 5	1 1 0 0 3 2	N/A	14 9 2 3 22 15	3-0 1984 (home)	0-4 1989 (home)
Melb. Croatia	14 6 6 2 24 15	13 8 3 2 24 14	N/A	2 2 0 0 3 1	29 16 9 4 51 30	4-0 1978 (home)	0-3 1980 (away)
Preston	9 4 2 3 15 11	9 4 3 2 12 6	1 0 1 0 4 4	4 3 0 1 7 1	23 11 6 6 38 22	4-0 1983 (away) & (cup)	0-1 1982 (home) 84 & 85 (away) & 85 (cup)
St George	9 4 2 3 14 12	9 3 2 4 13 10	N/A	N/A	18 7 4 7 27 22	5-2 1978 (home)	0-2 1983 (home) 1988 (home) & 1983 (away)
S.George Cross	6 3 1 2 8 7	6 3 0 3 9 10	N/A	1 0 1 0 1 1	13 6 2 5 18 18	5-2 1989 (away)	0-3 1987 (away)
Syd. Croatia	3 1 1 1 2 2	3 1 0 2 4 5	1 0 0 1 1 2	2 0 0 2 0 2	9 2 1 6 7 11	3-1 1988 (away)	0-2 1987 (away)
Syd. Olympic	9 4 4 1 14 10	9 5 4 0 16 7	2 2 0 0 4 2	N/A	20 11 8 1 34 19	3-0 1983 (home) & 1989 (away)	0-3 1979 (home)
Wollongong	5 3 0 2 9 4	5 1 2 2 7 9	N/A	N/A	10 4 2 4 16 13	4-1 1989 (away)	0-4 1987 (away)

SYDNEY CROATIA

Games decided on penalties have been shown as draws.

OPPONENT	HOME	AWAY	FINALS	CUP	TOTAL	RECORD WIN	RECORD DEFEAT
Adelaide City	4 2 1 1 8 6	3 1 2 0 3 2	N/A	N/A	7 3 3 1 11 8	2-0 1989 (home)	2-3 1987 (home)
APIA	6 3 1 2 9 5	6 5 0 1 10 4	N/A	4 1 0 3 4 7	16 9 1 6 23 16	3-0 1985 (home)	0-3 1979 (cup)
Blacktown	4 2 1 1 9 2	4 2 2 0 7 3	N/A	N/A	8 4 3 1 16 5	4-0 1985 & 1986 (both home)	1-2 1984 (home)
Heidelberg	2 1 0 1 3 2	2 1 0 1 2 2	N/A	1 0 1 0 1 1	5 2 1 2 6 5	2-0 1987 (home & away)	0-2 1989 (away)
Marconi	6 1 2 3 9 17	6 2 3 1 5 4	4 1 1 2 6 7	2 2 0 0 3 1	18 6 6 6 23 29	2-0 1985 (away)	0-5 1987 (home)
Melb. Croatia	3 2 1 0 9 2	3 0 2 1 2 4	N/A	N/A	6 2 3 1 11 6	6-1 1987 (home)	1-3 1987 (away)
Melb. Just	3 2 0 1 4 3	3 1 1 1 3 4	N/A	N/A	6 3 1 2 7 7	3-1 1989 (away)	0-3 1988 (away)
Preston Mak	3 2 1 0 6 4	3 2 1 0 4 1	N/A	N/A	6 4 2 0 10 5	2-0 1988 (away)	N/A
Sth Melbourne	3 2 0 1 5 4	3 1 1 1 2 2	1 1 0 0 2 1	2 2 0 0 2 0	9 6 1 2 11 7	2-0 1987 (home)	1-3 1988 (home)
St George	7 2 4 1 9 7	6 2 2 2 6 7	1 0 0 1 0 3	1 1 0 0 3 0	15 5 6 4 18 17	3-0 1987 (cup)	0-3 1989 (away) & 1986 (final)
S.George Cross	3 3 0 0 5 1	3 0 1 2 1 4	N/A	N/A	6 3 1 2 6 5	3-1 1987 (home)	1-3 1989 (away)
Syd. Olympic	6 3 1 2 13 5	6 1 1 4 5 10	1 0 0 1 3 4	N/A	13 4 2 7 21 19	5-0 1985 (home)	0-3 1988 (away)
Wollongong	5 4 1 0 12 3	6 2 0 4 6 6	1 0 1 0 0 0	1 0 0 1 2 3	13 6 2 5 20 12	5-1 1985 (home)	0-1 1984 & 1986 (both away)



Sydney Strikers — still leading the Buffalo Women's National League despite losing to the NIB Tornadoes last weekend — HECTOR CARRASCO pic.

BUFFALO SPORTS WOMEN NATIONAL INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

SYD STRIKERS 8 W. SYD SWANS 4

THE Western Sydney Swans opened the scoring in the second minute when Kris James scored following a good clearance from goalkeeper Jenny Stariha.

The Strikers were getting into stride and strode to a 4-1 lead by half-time following a breakdown of the Swans defence.

Again the Swans applied better pressure early in the second half when Jodie Wingrove and Tina Berg were able to score in fairly quick time.

However, it was not long before the competition leaders applied constant pressure on the Swans' goal to turn out clear winners.

STRIKERS: Marcantelli, Downie, McCarthy, Brown, Komorowski, Hyde, Edmundson, Huntington, Hebb, Nash, Schaefer.

SWANS: Stariha, L. Geribo, M. Geribo, James, Hiron, Wingrove, Byers, Berg, Halfacre, Scot.

SCORERS: Komorowski (5), Huntington, Hebb, own goal for Strikers, James, Wingrove, Berg, M. Geribo for Swans.

MELB BUFFALOS 4 TUBEMAKERS 6

THE Melbourne Buffalos took on Illawarra in Melbourne with both teams well below top strength with five players missing from each side.

It appeared to be anyone's game with both teams showing strong defensive skills and both goalkeepers well on top.

At half-time the teams were locked at 1-1 with goals to Carol Church of Buffalos and Zafaria Memperis for Illawarra being the only



This Sydney Swans player is a picture of determination as she heads the ball goalwards — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

ones to hit the net.

The Illawarra girls came out in the second half with determination and attacked continuously and were rewarded with goals to Karen Aham, Memperis (2), Brown and Stephenson and together with steady goalkeeping from joanne Edwards the result was never in doubt as they cruised to a 6-4 victory over the current competition leaders.

The Buffalos could only manage second half goals by Church, Angela Rees and Wendy Kinmont and coach Michael Contos and his girls will have to do some solid thinking if

they are to be serious contenders for the title, but three Illawarra ladies must be congratulated on an excellent performance.

SCORERS: Church (2), Rees, Kinmont for Buffalos, Memperis (3), Aham, K. Brown, Stephenson for Tubemakers.

SYD STRIKERS 4 NIB TORNADOES 9

IN a match that can only be summed up as the teacher against the apprentice, the Bankstown NIB Tornadoes defeated the Sydney Strikers last Saturday night at the Coca Cola Hall in Sydney.

Top scorer of the league, Kim Lembyk, was determined to show the Strikers that even though they were one point in front of the Tornadoes before this match, they had to cut Lembyk down and contain her.

They did for most of the match, with Felicity Huntington trying her best to stay with the deadly goalgetter, but even though Lembyk had hit the post and the crossbar in the early stages, she was determined to add to her tally of 12 goals.

But the Strikers had almost hit the lead themselves with a great header by Debbie Hyde

Finals at Homebush

BY JOE DI MEGLIO

THE 1989 James Hardie National Indoor Soccer League, is about to turn a new leaf and take the game to the people with the availability of the State Sports Centre at Homebush.

Both semi-finals for the men's and women's competitions have been booked for Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9.

from mid-court, but the ever-alert Donna Cooperthwaite was able to fly to palm the header over the post.

In the 18th minute Lembyk added to her goal tally when she struck a shot from a wide angle with great delicacy to beat the outstretched Marcantelli in the Strikers goal.

From then on the Strikers found it tough to stem the Tornadoes tide when Cindy Heydon collected a long ball from Sharon Young and made no mistake, putting it away past Marcantelli who was deputising for Kim Schaefer while away on outdoor duties with the NSW outdoor squad at the Australian Championships in Canberra.

And the Strikers probably felt they needed Schaefer's skills in goal when Julie Dolan and Lembyk scored in the space of two minutes to take the score to 4-0.

The Strikers did make a recovery when Nicole Komorowski scored twice in a minute to reduce the deficit to 4-2, but Lembyk notched her hat-trick and sunk the hopes of the Strikers team when she scored an easy goal just before half-time.

In the second half, the Tornadoes were content to sit back and toyed with the young, inexperienced Strikers who conceded more goals when Heydon scored in the 7th and 23rd minutes.

Again the Strikers came back to within three goals of the Tornadoes with Julie Hebb and Komorowski collecting a goal each but the margin was too big.

Heydon played a major role in the Tornadoes' eighth goal when she took on the Strikers defence and crossed into the middle to find Teresa McCann, who made no mistake with her shot to score.

Julie Dolan scored another goal in the final few seconds for the Tornadoes, but the match was long over before the half-time interval.

STRIKERS: Marcantelli, Downie, McCarthy, Brown, Komorowski, Hyde, Edmundson, Huntington, Hebb, Nash, Schaefer.

TORNADOES: Cooperthwaite, Dolan, Lembyk, McCann, Young, Sehn, Heydon.

SCORERS: Komorowski (3), Hebb for Strikers, Lembyk (3), Heydon (3), Dolan (2), McCann for Tornadoes.

With the move to introduce the larger cities in the 1990 competition and play the league fixtures at venues such as the Melbourne and Perth Entertainment Centres, it shows great headway for the sport, and in particular the advance made in Sydney.

An estimated capacity crowd will be expected for the sudden death matches, and with supporters such as the White Eagles in Sydney there shouldn't be the worry of empty grandstands.

It also sparks new promise for the new season ahead.

With the basketball Sydney Kings moving to the Entertainment Centre, there is the availability for use of league fixtures during the season, and with the Buffalo Sports Women's League to expand to 10 teams next year it looks to be another great year.

And the Australian Indoor Soccer Federation should be congratulated for attracting the best possible facilities for spectators.

And there's more to come, according to president Joe Brent.

The Federation intends to bring the best players from around the world over the next few years to play in Australia.

ON THE COURTS

MELBOURNE Buffalos' Paraguayan international keeper Flaminio Lopez has been offered a contract in Spain worth an estimated \$US700 a week.

Lopez, who toured Australia for the World Cup last year with the Paraguayan national side, decided to stay in Australia and play for the Portuguese based club in Melbourne.

He played a major role in Buffalos' winning side last year, but has been unsettled this year and fancies a move.

PETER Bacic, the man who was in Brazil when the two creators of the game in Australia, Joe Brent and Nick Nicolopoulos went to see how the indoor game was played, and later came himself to Australia to show us all the finer points of Futsal, has moved back to Australia to live after a stint in Brazil.

AUSTRALIAN coach Nick Nicolopoulos will select his team for the 10-day tour of Mexico in November this week.

The team will compete for the Pacific Cup. ASW will have all the squads and Cup details next week.

— JOE DI MEGLIO



THE JAMES HARDIE
NATIONAL INDOOR
SOCCER LEAGUE



THE BUFFALO SPORTS
WOMENS NATIONAL
INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE



JHNISL POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Sydney Swans.....	7	6	1	0	65	26	20
White Eagles.....	7	6	0	1	89	29	18
Melbourne Buffalos.....	8	4	3	1	59	41	18
B'town NIB Tornadoes.....	7	3	1	3	39	33	11
LaTrobe Valley Falcons.....	8	3	0	5	62	71	9
Brisbane Baysiders.....	6	3	0	3	34	51	9
AMIGA Commodores.....	7	2	1	4	30	57	8
Inter Monaro.....	5	2	0	3	27	51	6
Illawarra Health Fund.....	5	1	0	4	35	57	3
Sydney Strikers.....	6	0	0	6	30	57	0

Results

Bankstown NIB Tornadoes 7 Sydney Strikers 4, Brisbane Baysiders 7 AMIGA Commodores 4, LaTrobe Valley 12 Illawarra Health Fund 6, Melbourne Buffalos 8 Inter Monaro 5, White Eagles 8 Bankstown NIB Tornadoes 4, West Sydney Swans 13 Sydney Strikers 3, Melbourne Buffalos 17 Illawarra Health Fund 3, Inter Monaro 11 LaTrobe Valley 3.

Top Scorers

M. Blagojevic (White Eagles) 36, R. Filipovic (White Eagles) 31, Erkin Osman (West Syd. Swans) 21, A. Cassar (LaTrobe Valley), A. Saad (NIB Tornadoes) 17, J. Metaxas (Melb Buffalos) 15, M. Radosavljevic (White Eagles) 13, F. Carvalho (Melb Buffalos) 12, S. Gilligan (AMIGA Commodores), Joe Coelho (Illawarra HF) 11, V. Cristaldo (Melb Buffalos), S. Giampaolo (Inter Monaro) 10.

BSWNISL POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney Strikers.....	5	4	0	1	29	15	12
B'town NIB Tornadoes.....	4	3	1	0	32	16	11
Melbourne Buffalos.....	6	3	1	2	31	22	11
T'makers Prime Movers.....	4	1	0	3	12	26	3
West Sydney Swans.....	5	1	0	4	17	33	3
Brisbane Baysiders.....	2	0	0	2	5	14	0

Results

Bankstown NIB Tornadoes 9 Sydney Strikers 4, Sydney Strikers 8 West Sydney Swans 4, Tubemakers Prime Movers 6 Melbourne Buffalos 4.

Top Scorers

K. Lembyk (NIB Tornadoes) 15, N. Komorowski (Strikers) 10, J. Hebb (Sydney Strikers) 9, C. Church (Melb Buffalos) 8, C. Heydon (NIB Tornadoes) 7, J. McPhee, W. Kinmont (Melb Buffalos), C. James (West Syd Swans) 6, J. dolan (NIB Tornadoes), Z. Memperis (Tubemakers) 5.

THIS WEEK'S MATCHES

JHNISL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30

Sydney Strikers v White Eagles

Mount Druitt YMCA TBA

Brisbane Baysiders v B'town NIB Tornadoes

Chandler Stadium TBA

LaTrobe Valley Falcons v Melbourne Buffalos

Moe Sports Centre TBA

Inter Monaro v AMIGA Commodores

Civic YMCA 7.30pm

SUNDAY OCTOBER 1

AMIGA Commodores v Sydney Strikers

Valentine Park Parklea 1pm

BSWNISL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30

Brisbane Baysiders v B'town NIB Tornadoes

Chandler Stadium TBA

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL

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DEBBIE HYDE (Sydney Strikers).



JAMES HARDIE NATIONAL

INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

Compiled by
ASW INDOOR EXPERT
JOE DI MEGLIO

Tornadoes Falter

SYDNEY White Eagles downed triple James Hardie NISL League champions NIB Tornadoes 8-4 in the best match of the season before a capacity house of 1100 fans at the Fairfield Leisure Centre on Sunday evening.

Five goals from Milan Blagojevic enabled the Eagles to break the 2-2 deadlock at half time and maintain their second spot on the table.

Blagojevic, with 36 goals, now becomes the league's leading scorer.

West Sydney Swans, beaten finalists in last season's James Hardie NISL, maintained their cracking pace at the top of the table when they beat bottom of the ladder Sydney Strikers 13-4.

Defending champions, the Melbourne Buffalos, are just two points behind thanks to two splendid victories over the weekend — 17-3 against Illawarra with eight goals from John Metaxas, and 8-6 over

the national capital's Inter Monaro.

Inter Monaro welcomed the return of outdoor star Sebastian Giampaolo, to record a much needed 11-3 win over La Trobe Valley while Brisbane moved up the table a couple of notches with their 7-4 result against the AMIGA Commodores at the Chandler Stadium in Brisbane.

In the Buffalo Sports Womens NISL, the NIB Tornadoes served notice they are going to be the team to beat with a comfortable 8-4 scoreline against leaders Sydney Strikers, while Illawarra caused the upset of the weekend by downing the previous leaders, the Melbourne Buffalos 6-4.

SYD STRIKERS 4 NIB TORNADOES 7

WITH the return of the big guns, the Bankstown NIB Tornadoes defeated the Sydney Strikers at the Coca Cola Hall, Mt Druitt last Saturday night.

But they were shaken up early in the first minute when the Strikers capitalised on a goalkeeping error as George Psaroudis was unable to hold a shot from Dragan Bogicevic and Zelko Zec was there to pounce on the half-chance.

The Tornadoes were unlucky not to score when shots from John White and Abbas Saad were just off target.

But they did get their equaliser in the 10th minute through a good run by Gary Bateman, after he had intercepted a Strikers build-up and shot high into the top corner of the goal out of the reach of Strikers keeper Victor Mourinho.

And from there on it was the Tornadoes who were teaching the Strikers a lesson on how to play indoor soccer, with Steve Knight making a welcome return to his side with a goal that had class and experience written all over it.

In the second half the Strikers introduced Frank Valastro, who has been their most dangerous player so far this season, into their attack.

But even Valastro couldn't stop the charge of the Tornadoes when Australian captain Robbie Stuart and defender Gary Bateman took the score to 4-1 in the third minute of the second half.

Valastro, however, took his goal tally to seven when he struck twice in two minutes to bring his side to within one goal of the three-time Australian champions.

Knight destroyed those dreams of a comeback when he made a penetrative run down the wing and shot through Ross Pinto in the Strikers goal.

Stuart and Hilton Silva added goals for the Tornadoes in the final few minutes, with Valastro collecting his hat-trick for the Strikers but that was not enough to inspire his team mates to a last-gasp charge.

STRIKERS: Pinto, Mourinho, Ivaneza, Kodor, Radic, Bogicevic, Valastro, Speranza, Zec, Periera.

TORNADOES: Psaroudis, Bateman, Silva, Stuart, Jeffrey, Saad, White.

Scorers: Valastro (3), Zec for Strikers, Bateman (2), Stuart (2), Knight (2), Silva for Tornadoes.

MELB BUFFALOS 17 ILLAWARRA HF 3

ILLAWARRA Health Fund faced the Melbourne Buffalos without Brian Brown, injured the previous day against the LaTrobe side and with a young depleted squad it was encouraging when they scored a great goal through their topscorer Joe Coelho in the first minute.

The Buffalos then bombarded the Illawarra goal for the next five minutes and scored through Victor Cristaldo, Fortunato Carvalho, Jorge Rodrigues, Zoran Atanovski and John Metaxas before Coelho replied for Illawarra, but again the Buffalos showed their supremacy with goals to Atanovski and a mira-



John White (NIB Tornadoes) gets his shot away, albeit unsuccessfully, against the White Eagles — HECTOR CARRASCO pic.

culous goal to the mercurial Metaxas gave the Buffalos a 7-2 lead at the break.

The Buffalos continued their barrage of the net with goals to Christian Ibeas and Cristaldo before a goal to Hernandezof Illawarra scored at the 6th minute mark in what was to be the last for them, as the magic feet of the clever John Metaxas took over as he slammed in six goals in eight minutes and when Carvalho put in another two the Buffalos had recorded a great victory of 17-3 in outstanding style.

Scorers: Metaxas (8), Carvalho (3), Cristaldo (2), Atanovski, Ibeas, Rodrigues for Buffalos, Coelho (2), Hernandezof for Illawarra.

MELB BUFFALOS 8 INTER MONARO 5

THE Melbourne Buffalos took on Inter Monaro at the Ascot vale Leisure Centre in a game which kicked off at a blistering pace.

The boys from Canberra started sensationally and after 10 minutes with goals to Simon Aitchison, Popovic and Sebastian Giampaolo, they led 3-0 and the Buffalos looked as they were going to be beaten, but a great goal by Victor Cristaldo just before half-time gave them some hope.

Tony Musemuci made many spectacular saves and had the crowd gasping as he flew through the air to repeatedly keep the Buf-

falos out.

Inter Monaro started the second half with another great goal from Giampaolo and the Melbourne boys really had a game on their hands but with great defence and some beautiful offensive moves the Buffalos staged a magnificent comeback with goals to Cristaldo, Atanovski, Steve Hackett (2) and Fortunato Carvalho, to go to a 6-4 lead, and the enthusiastic Buffalo supporters started to breathe again.

Popovic kicked another for Inter Monaro to put them one behind with four minutes to play, but the powerful Buffalos continued to hammer the goals, with Jorge Rodrigues and Carvalho, the boys from Melbourne had staged a great comeback to record an 8-5 victory.

Tony Musemuci had a great game for Inter Monaro and without him the Buffalos could have won by 20 goals, but his spectacular diving saves were the highlight of the night.

SCORERS: Hackett (2), Cristaldo (2), Carvalho (2), Rodrigues, Atanovski for Buffalos; Giampaolo (2), Aitchison, N. Popovic, A. Popovic for Inter Monaro.

BRIS B'SIDERS 7 AMIGA C'DORES 4

BRISBANE Baysiders chalked up a 7-4 home victory at Chandler on Saturday at the expense of Sydney's AMIGA Commodores.

After the preliminary entertainment Wayne Corbett was right in the mood to score in the sixth minute, and he followed up with another later in the match.

Chris O'Reilly netted the Baysiders' second, and with the AMIGAS keeping replying and Randy Bramwell headed in for Brisbane, the visitors held a 4-3

halftime lead.

Corbett then equalised and Dirk Siedentoff netted for two further Brisbane goals, with Steffen going on to seal the 7-4 result.

SYD STRIKERS 3 W. SYD SWANS 13

THE Western Sydney Swans beat the Sydney Strikers in their Round 7 encounter at the Fairfield Leisure Centre last Sunday night.

The final score was no reflection of the closeness of the match, which was absolutely even for three-quarters of the game.

Strikers' Vladan Radic scored in the sixth minute to put the home side ahead.

The Swans' attack was not with it in the early stages as the combination passing continually broke down with many passes going astray.

Nevertheless, Western Sydney continued with their disciplined plan and it was captain Erkin Osman who was to score for the them after running into the clear and receiving a pass from brother Ercan.

Brett Duval scored shortly after for the Swans before Erkin scored his second from a strong volley from a corner throw-in.

Ercan Osman also scored a well-taken goal in the 18th minute to take the Swans to four.

However, Frank Valastro scored again for Sydney Strikers after losing his defender and was unmarked when he received a beautiful cross-court pass and he made no mistake to get his name on the scoreboard.

It was not until halfway through the second half before any change was made to the score and as the Strikers appeared to tire the Swans applied plenty of pressure to run aay to a comfortable result at the finish.

Erkin Osman scored a further three goals with Stefan Janic also helping himself to a hat-trick again.

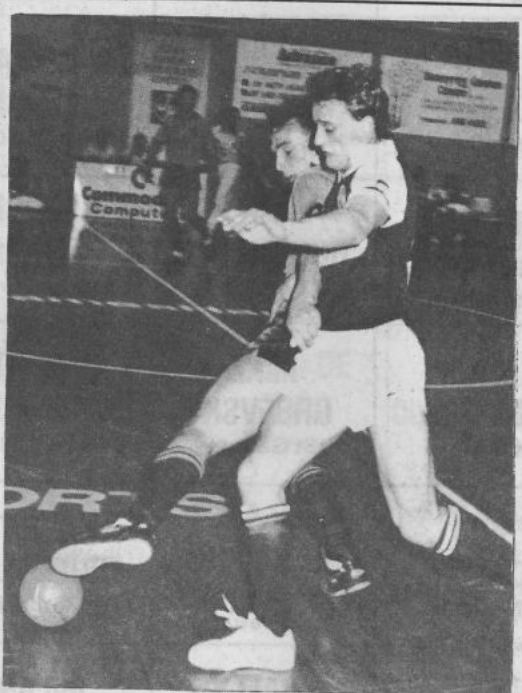
Charles Akkary and Steve Duval also added to the total in the last portion of the game.

Luis Pereira scored a consolation goal from close range for the Strikers to wrap up the game.

STRIKERS: Pinto, Radic, Bogicevic, Valastro, Speranza, Mourinho, Kodor, Pereira, Zec, Ivaneza, Momirceviski.

SWANS: Thurlow, Ercan Osman, Erkin Osman, S. Duval, B. Duval, Janic, Akkary, Wilson, Dene, Saville, Umpedy, Spirovski.

SCORERS: Radic, Valastro, Pereira for Strikers; Erkin Osman (5), Janic (3), Akkary (2), S. Duval, B. Duval, Ercan Osman for Swans.



Max Bettoncelli, of Illawarra Health Fund, tussles with Vladan Radic (Sydney Strikers) — photo HECTOR CARRASCO.

AUSTRALIAN
SOCCER
WEEKLY

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SCOTT OLLERENSHAW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Because the NSL champions this year were also the winners of the play-offs it was decided that votes will be collected only after the grand final.

By this time Andon Donceviski (Preston) had returned to Yugoslavia and Ivan Raznjevic (Melbourne Croatia), Eddie Thomson and Mick Hickman (Sydney Olympic) were away on overseas holidays.

Ljube Jancev (Donceviski's assistant and Preston's 1989/90 coach), George Hannah, (Raznjevic's unofficial assistant) and Sydney Olympic Youth coach Geoff Harcombe were kind enough to fill in.

It is interesting to note that, after the Socceros failure against Israel, only two regulars — Alan Davidson and Graham Arnold — make the NSL XI.

[Once again AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY and its extensive readership is indebted to Joe Marton for his painstaking review of the leading player, coach and referee figures of the past season.

After this wrap-up, the scene is moving on to the new Summer NSL presentation following the short championship recess — Ed]



GEORGE JOLEVSKI

ASW'S 1989 REVIEW OF THE

VOTING COACH	GOALKEEPER	FULLBACK	CENTRE BACK	CENTRE BACK	FULLBACK
ZORAN MATIC Adelaide City	SEAN KEOGH Sunshine	DRAGO DEANKOVIC Melbourne City	MIRKO RADOSAVLJEVIC APIA L'hardt	STEVE BLAIR South Melbourne	MIKE GRBEVSKI St George
MICHAEL URUKALO APIA-L'hardt	PHIL TRAIANEDES Preston	DAVID BARRETT Syd. Olympic	ROBERT WHEATLEY Marconi	STEVE BLAIR South Melbourne	STEVE GEORGIAKIS Syd. Olympic
LES SCHEINFLUG Blacktown	MIKE GIBSON St George	DAVID HEALEY South Melbourne	MIRKO RADOSAVLJEVIC APIA L'hardt	MILAN IVANOVICH Adelaide City	JEAN PAUL DE MARIGNY Marconi
MIRON BLEIBERG Heidelberg	BOB CATLIN Marconi	ALAN DAVIDSON Melbourne Croatia	MILAN IVANOVICH Adelaide City	ALAN HUNTER Sydney Croatia	GEORGE JOLEVSKI Preston
BERTI MARIANI Marconi	MIKE GIBSON St George	DAVID BARRETT Syd. Olympic	ANDY KOCZKA St George	ALAN HUNTER Sydney Croatia	GEORGE JOLEVSKI Preston
JOHN MARGARITIS Melbourne City	MIKE GIBSON St George	ANDREW MARTH Sunshine	SHAUN PARTON Sunshine	STEVE BLAIR South Melbourne	ANGIE POSTECOGLOU South Melbourne
GEORGE HANNAH Melbourne Croatia	ROBERT ZABICA Adelaide City	DAVID HEALEY South Melbourne	MILAN IVANOVICH Adelaide City	NEVILLE FLOUNDERS Adelaide City	JEAN PAUL DE MARIGNY Marconi
LJUBE JANCEV Preston	SEAN KEOGH Sunshine	ALAN DAVIDSON Melbourne Croatia	MILAN IVANOVICH Adelaide City	GARY VAN EGMOND Melbourne City	MIKE GRBEVSKI St George
BRIAN GARVEY South Melbourne	SEAN KEOGH Sunshine	ALAN DAVIDSON Melbourne Croatia	ROBERT WHEATLEY Marconi	GEORGE HANNAH Melbourne Croatia	MIKE GRBEVSKI St George
FRANK AROK St George	JEFF OLVER Heidelberg	ALAN DAVIDSON Melbourne Croatia	GARY VAN EGMOND Melbourne City	STEVE CALDERAN Marconi	WALLY SAVOR Sydney Croatia
JOHN GARDINER Sunshine	BRUCE MacLAREN South Melbourne	IAN ROODHOUSE Preston	GEORGE HANNAH Melbourne Croatia	STEVE BLAIR South Melbourne	ALEX TOBIN Adelaide City
VEDRAN ROZIC Sydney Croatia	MIKE GIBSON St George	MIKE GRBEVSKI St George	ROBERT WHEATLEY Marconi	STEVE CALDERAN Marconi	JEAN PAUL DE MARIGNY Marconi
GEOFF HARCOMBE Sydney Olympic	BOB CATLIN Marconi	ALAN DAVIDSON Melbourne Croatia	ROBERT WHEATLEY Marconi	GERARDO GOMEZ Marconi	JEAN PAUL DE MARIGNY Marconi
JOHN FLEMING Wollongong	MIKE GIBSON St George	WALLY SAVOR Sydney Croatia	MILAN IVANOVICH Adelaide City	MIKE O'SHEA St George	JEAN PAUL DE MARIGNY Marconi

The Coaches' own Selections

COACHES' PLAYER CHOICES

MIDFIELDERS			FORWARDS			MOST VALUABLE
STEVE TASSIOS South Melbourne	IAN GRAY Marconi	ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	DAVID LOWE Marconi	SCOTT OLLERENSHAW St George	DAVID LOWE Marconi
ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia	IAN GRAY Marconi	PETER KATHOLOS Marconi	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	DAVID LOWE Marconi	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne
ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia	IAN GRAY Marconi	TOM McCULLOCH Marconi	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	ALISTAIR EDWARDS Syd. Olympic	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi
SERGIO MELTA Adelaide City	IAN GRAY Marconi	BRANKO MILOSEVIC Melbourne Croatia	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	GRAHAM ARNOLD Sydney Croatia	ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia	IAN GRAY Marconi
ALAN DAVIDSON Melbourne Croatia	ROBERT IRONSIDE Syd. Olympic	AURELIO VIDMAR Adelaide City	CARLOS RETRE Melbourne City	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	ALISTAIR EDWARDS Syd. Olympic	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne
STEVE TASSIOS South Melbourne	MIKE PETERSEN South Melbourne	JASON POLAK Syd. Olympic	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	JOHN MARKOVSKI Preston	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne
SERGIO MELTA Adelaide City	IAN GRAY Marconi	OSCAR CRINO Melbourne City	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	JASON POLAK Syd. Olympic	MILAN IVANOVICH Adelaide City
MIKE PETERSEN South Melbourne	BRANKO MILOSEVIC Melbourne Croatia	JASON POLAK Syd. Olympic	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	FRANCIS AWARITEFE Melbourne Croatia	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi
SERGIO MELTA Adelaide City	IAN GRAY Marconi	ROBERT IRONSIDE Syd. Olympic	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia	JASON POLAK Syd. Olympic	ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia
PAUL WADE South Melbourne	MIKE PETERSEN South Melbourne	OSCAR CRINO Melbourne City	WARREN SPINK Preston	GRAHAM ARNOLD Sydney Croatia	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi
JASON POLAK Syd. Olympic	IAN GRAY Marconi	AURELIO VIDMAR Adelaide City	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	JOHN MARKOVSKI Preston	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi
ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia	IAN GRAY Marconi	JOSIP BISKIC Melbourne Croatia	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	FRED DE JONG Marconi	SCOTT OLLERENSHAW St George	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi
OSCAR CRINO Melbourne City	IAN GRAY Marconi	TOM McCULLOCH Marconi	ZLATKO NASTEVSKI Marconi	GRAHAM ARNOLD Sydney Croatia	FRANCIS AWARITEFE Melbourne Croatia	GERARDO GOMEZ Marconi
OSCAR CRINO Melbourne City	BRANKO MILOSEVIC Melbourne Croatia	PEDRO RICOY APIA L'hardt	ZELJKO ADZIC Melbourne Croatia	PAUL TRIMBOLI South Melbourne	GRAHAM ARNOLD Sydney Croatia	MILAN IVANOVICH Adelaide City



JASON POLAK, now with Panathinaikos in Greece, would have been picked by many fans as one of the NSL's best midfielders last season but, surprisingly, he wasn't all that popular with the coaches.

NSL FIRST XI

MIKE GIBSON	ST GEORGE
ALAN DAVIDSON	MELBOURNE CROATIA
STEVE BLAIR	SOUTH MELBOURNE
MILAN IVANOVICH	ADELAIDE CITY
JEAN-PAUL DE MARIGNY	MARCONI
IAN GRAY	MARCONI
ZELJKO ADZIC	MELBOURNE CROATIA
JASON POLAK	SYDNEY OLYMPIC
ZLATKO NASTEVSKI	MARCONI
PAUL TRIMBOLI	SOUTH MELBOURNE
GRAHAM ARNOLD	SYDNEY CROATIA

NSL SECOND XI

SEAN KEOGH	SUNSHINE
DAVID BARRETT	SYDNEY OLYMPIC
ROBERT WHEATLEY	MARCONI
ALAN HUNTER	SYDNEY CROATIA
MIKE GRBEVSKI	ST GEORGE
OSCAR CRINO	MELBOURNE CITY
SERGIO MELTA	ADELAIDE CITY
MIKE PETERSEN	SOUTH MELBOURNE
FRANCIS AWARITEFE	MELBOURNE CROATIA
DAVID LOWE	MARCONI
SCOTT OLLERENSHAW	ST GEORGE

UNDER 23

PHIL TRAIANEDES	PRESTON
ANDREW MARTH	SUNSHINE
DAVID HEALY	SOUTH MELBOURNE
GEORGE JOLEVSKI	PRESTON
STEVE GEORGAKIS	SYDNEY OLYMPIC
STEVE TASSIOS	SOUTH MELBOURNE
AURELIO VIDMAR	ADELAIDE CITY
ROBERT IRONSIDE	SYDNEY OLYMPIC
PEDRO RICOY	APIA-L'HARDT
JOHN MARKOVSKI	PRESTON
ALISTAIR EDWARDS	SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Polak, Barrett, Grbevski, Ollerenshaw and Trim-boli are all under 23, but as they have already been included in the NSL first or second XI, they have not been included in the under 23 selection.

Phil Traianedes turned 23 after the season started.

Special mention to Les Scheinflug whose team of the year included seven players who made the NSL XI, while Mike Urukalo and Brian Garvey had ten players each who were included in the NSL XI, second or under 23 team.

(excluding their own players)

Research by
JOE MARTON

Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . .

CANBERRA Croatia's star striker MARKO PERINOVIC could be playing in the National League next year.

His scintillating form against Avala in the NSW State League semi-final last Wednesday night did not go unnoticed.

A number of NSL scouts, primarily from Sydney Olympic, were at the game to watch him single handedly destroy Avala.

But the snag will be his thriving taxi business in the ACT.

He would have to give up a lot to go to Sydney three times a week plus once over the weekend.

JAROSLAW NOWICKI, the Poland import who was a huge success as a guest with the Chopin Park outfit, could be playing for a Sydney based NSL outfit next season.

He was approached by one particular club, but so far no official offer has been made.

Hailing from Legia Gdansk, Nowicki is a tricky and speedy flankman with the ability to beat his man on either side.

HARD-tackling Poland defender Richard Lasek is on his way to Ruch Chorzow club in Poland.

Lasek, who has previously spent some time trialing with the Polish first division club, will be giving it another try next month when he departs in a bid to

secure a place in the dizzy heights of Polish first division football.

THE NSW State League is constantly suffering from the drain of its best teams into the NSL.

the Federation may cull down the number of teams to ten for 1990.

However, NSW Soccer Federation president John Constantine said: "Nothing has been determined as

ing to be a privatisation success, coming out ahead financially last season in spite of the wretched weather.

Up front personalities are of course coach Frank Arok and development officer and team captain Andy Koczka.

The recently announced apprenticeship plan is a certain winner, and a lot of work is going in to secure sponsors for the players.

Quietly spoken general manager Tony Balazsi has a few schemes well in mind.

Said Balazsi: "St George is being marketed as a completely Australian club.

"This is the only way to go for the future to obtain maximum general interest.

"We are particularly glad to have Advance Bank with us, as it is one of the pointers that demonstrates our close connection with the entire community."

GRANT LEE, the Sydney Olympic midfielder/striker, belongs to a sporting family.

Mark Taylor, his wife Tina's brother, is the highly successful Australian Test cricketer.

SYDNEY CROATIA will kick off the new season nicely thanks to a \$50,000 sponsorship from local company, GPI Formwork.

Latest in a line of possibilities to join the club is strong midfielder PEDRO RICOY, currently with Apia Leichhardt after originally coming to the fore as a St George junior.

Steve Gojevic from Heidelberg and Velemir Kupresak, the all-rounder from St Albans in the Victorian State League, are due to arrive in Sydney from Melbourne shortly.

The club is talking to left-back Mike Grbevski from St George as well as unattached former Socceroo skipper, Charlie Yankos.

BLACKTOWN CITY has released Scottish striker Eric Ferguson, who joined the club in a blaze of glory last season.

Coach Les Scheinflug is most confident that the Demons will be a very strong force

in the coming season, but says that the time to talk about specific big names is when they are signed, sealed and delivered.

However the club is on the trail of Soccerooos Charlie Yankos, Garry McDowall and Jeff Olver, as well as the talented Paul Carter and strong runner Geoff Gunning.

Russell Stewart, Shane Haddow and Nick Meredith — all from Brisbane — would greatly strengthen the squad.

He is, however, having a quiet chuckle over some Brisbane reports.

"I haven't even spoken to two of the players whom I am supposed to be considering bringing down here for next season," he said.

SOCCEROO Gary van Egmond has had a transfer tag of \$30,000 placed on him by Melbourne City JUST — and this despite the fact he went to them on a free transfer.

The player also claims the club still owes him money.

Marconi were interested in his services, but not at that price, according to Berti Mariani.

APIA have quashed rumours they may sign Marshall Soper. The club, however, is most definitely interested in ace Socceroo midfielder Oscar Crino.

WHILE on the subject of Apia, the Leichhardt club has released a host of players, including Craig Mason, Kevin Hagan, Mirko Radosavljevic and Jim Webber, while John Kosmina and Steve O'Connor have retired from NSL football.

WOLLONGONG CITY goalkeeper Warwick Young is considering retirement. If the talented custodian, son of former Corrimall great Bob Young and brother of St George rugby league coach Craig Young, does hang up his gloves, newly-appointed Wolves player-coach David Ratcliffe may try to sign Sydney Croatia's John Krajnovic, a Wollongong product.



Yvette Lemaire, hailing from la "Belle France", is now on a working holiday in Australia. A fan of Stade de Reims, she hopes to take in the opening of the summer NSL season.

PETER KATHOLOS, now on a business trip in Europe, linked up with Les Murray, in Italy on a World Cup assignment for SBS-TV, in Turin.

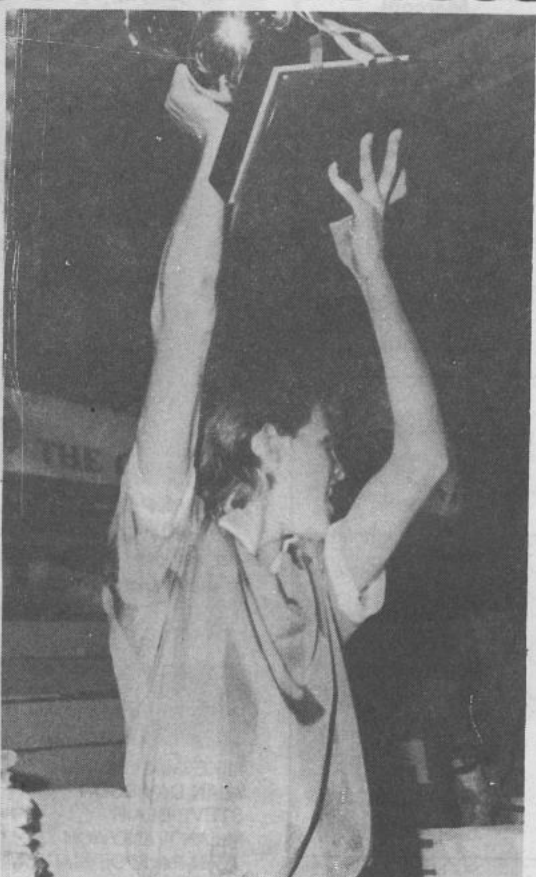
Both watched the Inter Milan v Juventus game at San Siro Stadium, courtesy of Apia official Tony Palumbo, also part of the SBS crew now in Italy.

Tickets for the summit match fetched \$90 and the atmosphere and the standard of football on view as Inter won 2-1 were "fabulous", according to Les Murray who will be introducing this week's 'World Soccer' on SBS-TV (5.30pm Saturday) from the sidelines at San Siro.

CANBERRA CROATIA'S season may have ended in disappointment, but there is still plenty of soccer to play. The club will remain in training for the annual Australian Croatian tournament in Brisbane from October 27-29. Secretary Dennis

Glavinic said that with the summer NSL season kicking off the following week he expected the Sydney and Melbourne Croatia clubs to be using the tournament as part of their warm-up program.

SIX TEAMS have entered Inter Monaro's veterans tournament which will run on October 1, beginning at 9am. Club publicity officer Jock Coulter said Inter Monaro, Tuggeranong United, Belconnen United, Juventus, Canberra City Concordia and the Austrian Club would all be at the Marco Polo Ground for what he believed would be a fun day of soccer. "There will be a club delegates' meeting at the Kambah Tavern next Tuesday at 7pm and in the meantime any inquiries should be directed to me on 75 1394 or 31 8107," Coulter said.



Jubilant Cambridge Park High School captain Michael White holds the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup aloft following the presentation by Mr Paul Dunn, the bank's Chief Manager in Newcastle.

In consequence it has been looking at the various options to improve the quality of football in the League for 1990.

There is a view that

yet, as so many things have to be taken into account before making such a drastic decision."

ST GEORGE is prov-



SBS TV presenter Les Murray meets up with Raul Fernandez, the visiting coach from Universidad Catolica Soccer School in Santiago, Chile. Also pictured are Fernandez' mother Elizabeth and sister-in-law Veronica.

THE BALL THE PROS PLAY WITH	MULTIPLEX	SHOOT	COSMIC	DELTA	OFFICIAL SPONSORS TO NSL ASF
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Stewart set to dominate in Queensland grand final

FORMER young Socceroo Russell Stewart looms as the dangerman in the Queensland XXXX League grand final at Perry Park on Sunday.

Stewart, 25, almost single handedly steered Lions in the season finale with a performance in the major semi-final against North Star which underlined his new found desire to win more than the lone Socceroo cap he earned on the 1986 tour of China.

Stewart netted three stunning goals as Lions swept aside premiers North Star in the major semi a week ago.

It was the first time Lions have emerged victorious against their rivals.

Two of his three goals were unstoppable rockets hit with alternate feet, with his hat-trick coming from a classic set move which fooled the entire North Star defence.

Stewart revealed after the match that he had sparked back to his best form after a soul-searching talk with team-mates at a party the week prior to the major semi-final.

He admitted he had been guilty of not fulfilling his potential.

After turning down southern offers for the past five years, Stewart will finally go interstate next season if there is no Brisbane team in the NSL.

Blacktown is his likely destination after coach Les Scheinflug said during a recent visit to his likely destination after coach Les Scheinflug said during a recent visit to Brisbane: "I could still make Russell Stewart the best player in Australia".

Brisbane soccer fans have seen so many sides of Stewart's play in recent years. But unfortunately, most of it was his on-field sky-larking — probably brought on by the fact that at times it is all so easy for the gifted midfielder.

Stewart has vowed those days are over and now he wants to get his easily-attainable share of top-level glory.

"I've got to have another crack at National League to be hap-

py within myself that I achieved all I could," Stewart said.

The birth of his first child in November has prompted Stewart to reject approaches to head south for the inaugural NSL summer season, which starts that month, but from the New Year he will be open to offers unless concrete proposals are put forward for a combined Brisbane entry in the 1990 NSL.

Having missed out on all honors this year, including state selection, also sparked Stewart back to his best.

"The grand final was the only thing left to win and God help the side who meets us," he said.

If Stewart repeats his major semi form — and in particular his deadly shooting — in the grand final, it is hard to see Lions being denied the Brusasco Cup.

Stewart had the Perry Park crowd buzzing whenever he got the ball after letting it be known as early as the 11th minute that he meant business.

His first piledriver was blocked by team-mate John Lowey, then a freekick from 40 yards beat North Star keeper Noel Lord but was cleared out of the goalmouth.

Inevitably, Stewart opened the scoring in the 22nd minute, he danced through the Stars defence and slipped a pinpoint shot into the nearpost corner.

If that goal made Lord look silly, Stewart's next made him obsolete.

Stewart cracked a leftfoot from 30 yards which took a wicked late bend and was rebounding off the back netting before Lord had even reacted.

The sheer speed and flight of the ball would have beaten any keeper anywhere in the world.

Lord, who had gone 31 first team games without defeat, gained some revenge with a acrobatic one-handed save in the 55th minute.

Stars pulled one back when Lee Scriggins score from close range after the ball hit the woodwork twice in a goalmouth Melee.

But any thoughts of

a North Star fightback were snuffed out by Stewart sheer tricky and clinical shooting 15 minutes later on a freekick on the edge of the box.

With regular dead-ball partner John Ogden on the bench, Stewart briefed midfielder Mick Tonner who proceeded to give what he later described as "an oscar-winning performance for best supporting actor".

Tonner ran over the ball then threw his arms in the air in "disgust" for the "botched" freekick.

Amid the tantrum, he casually sidefooted to Stewart who hit a blistering shot through the narrow gap between the end of the wall and Lord.

Lions coach Frank Liddell, revelling in the happiest Lions dressing rooms this

season, stated the obvious in labelling Stewart "a different class".

"He has finally realised that he can play a lot better than he has this season," Liddell said.

"But the whole team gave a committed effort.

"I told them two weeks ago that they only had to win three games for the grand final. They won two and they will do the third."

In the North Star dressing room, player-coach Billy Williamson sat silently amid a side shellshocked by Stewart's finishing.

"He had an unbelievable game, everything he hit went in," Williamson said.

"They wanted to win and we thought we would."

Premiers North Star to line up 1990 players

XXXX League premiers North Star are not resting on their laurels and already have two players from rival clubs in their sights for the 1990 season.

Coincidentally, the two players were in action in last weekend's knockout semi-final between Brisbane City and Easts, but North Star player-coach Billy Williamson declined to name them.

But he confirmed one was a defender to cover for his likely retirement at the end of this season.

Williamson, 35, has been undecided over his future since his six-week suspension last month. He finally has decided to concentrate only on coaching next year.

The former striker-turned-sweeper trained only three times since he was sent off against Lions, but was forced into selecting himself for the major semi-final clash with Lions because of the suspension of young replacement Shane Haddow.

Williamson said he had spoken to one of the players he was keen to sign earlier this year and had received an enthusiastic response.

"I think North Star have showed this year



B. Williamson that we look after our players and there is a tremendous spirit at the club," Williamson said.

"We were very lucky with injuries this season but we must have the depth at the club to cover for things if they don't go so well next year.

"But any purchases we make won't be just for the sake of buying.

"The players I am interested in are ones I feel will slot into the team, both football and attitude wise."

North Star this season declined to contest the interstate promotion play-offs after winning the XXXX League premiership, but have given an early commitment that they will go NSL in 1991 if they gain the chance.

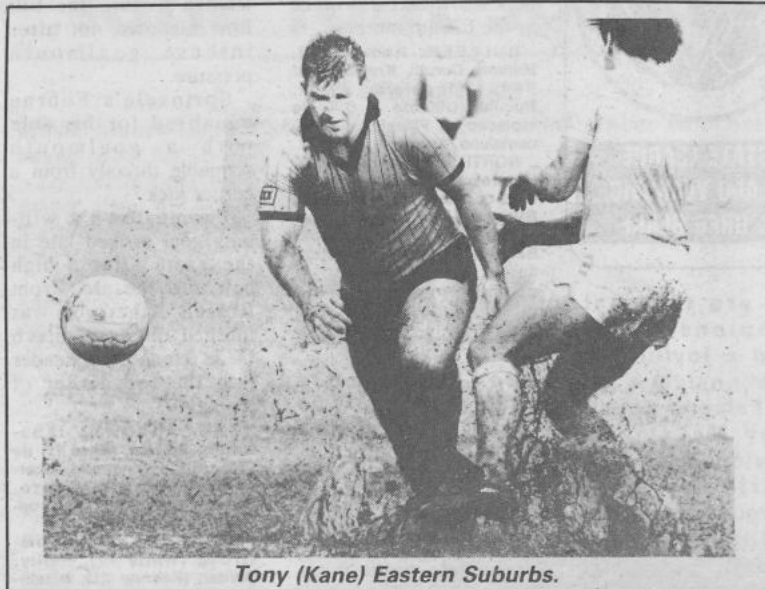
"Things came a little too early for us this season," said club vice-president Neil Sullivan.

"But we aim to build on this season and be ready to go next time."

North Star do not expect to lose any of their current squad, with most players expected to re-sign within the next few weeks.

There is strong speculation that experienced midfielder Garry Lindsay could head for Lanham Park to link again with coach Matt Carson, who has taken over Grange Thistle.

The pair together have enjoyed success at Southside Eagles, Lions, and Ipswich United.



Tony (Kane) Eastern Suburbs.

Pimblett-Hermiston double possible at Spencer Park

BRISBANE City's favourite son, midfielder Frank Pimblett, could take on the enormous task of rebuilding the team after it meekly bowed out of the Queensland XXXX League finals series last week.

Brisbane City lost 1-0 — a third minute penalty — to Easts, but never looked like winning.

Even retiring coach Iain Fagan admitted it was one of the team's worst performances.

The City fans resorted to heckling their side and the coach as they left the park for the last time this season.

Pimblett, 32, who has anchored the team's midfield in his comeback season after four years on the sidelines, has declined to rule himself out of contention for the City coaching job next season following Fagan's announcement to leave after breaking his contract with second division club Inala City in April to go to Spencer Park.

Pimblett, who has enrolled to do a level two coaching course in October, would be a popular replacement but believes he has a lot to consider before declaring himself an applicant.

He coached the team for six weeks in the NSL in 1983 when Joe Gilroy stepped down.

The roots of today's problems at City probably had their origins in those days when very little was done to encourage youth through the ranks.

Pimblett faces a major upheaval and will have to start from scratch if he hopes to return City to the strength it enjoyed in the early days of NSL and in the local competition prior to that.

Pimblett wants to continue playing next season and is concerned about the demands of player-

coaching if he nominates for the City job.

"I would need a really good trainer as a back-up because I am the type of player who needs hard work to keep fit," he said.

"I wouldn't say I'm not interested in the coaching job, but I would have to think long and hard before I took it on.

"I wouldn't want to make the step one year too early."

Coincidentally, the ideal trainer Pimblett desires is already at Spencer Park in reserve team coach Jim Hermiston, a fitness expert and twice former City coach.

Hermiston is a past City coach and Pimblett has great admiration for his training.

"With Jim you don't work for a long time, but you do quality training," he said.

Securing Pimblett as a coach could head off moves by a number of clubs to lure the experienced midfielder away from Spencer Park.

Two clubs, including a major rival, are known to be interested.

"I am happy at City and it would have to be a good offer to get me away," Pimblett said. "But I'm not married to the club."

Any decision on the City coaching job cannot be made until November.

Longtime president Sam Papplardo and secretary John Ponturo have indicated they will not seek re-election.

Intense lobbying is now underway at the club with several factions attempting to gain the votes for the November annual general meeting.



Victorian title is still up for grabs

"WE are the real champions," declared a joyful but apprehensive Morwell Falcons coach Bobby McLachlan following his side's 4-0 triumph over Ringwood City in the Latrobe Valley on Saturday.

McLachlan was speaking after hearing the news that title rival Juventus was to go to the VSF tribunal again in its bid to win the championship and an NSL play-off place (see ASW story on page 4).

"When this sort of thing happens you can understand why people have drifted away from the game," said McLachlan.

Morwell's possible second State League title was clinched with a pair of goals on either side of half-time as it swamped a Ringwood side in front of the club's best home gate of the season.

Falcons, unbeaten in their last 17 games, struck first through Ron Manley after 14 minutes and Roy Walsh added a second goal four minutes from half time.

Kiwi international Billy Wright scored Morwell's third goal shortly after the interval and Jim McBride capped possibly the club's most memorable day by making it 4-0 with three minutes left on the clock.

MORWELL: Reynolds, Bruns, Bingham, Walsh, Doyle, Cassar, McBride, Nelson, Byrne, Manley, Wright.
RINGWOOD: Blackely, Wall (Wemyss), Haupt, Verniers, Shannon, Muir, Kennedy, Nolan, Walker (Cumming), Maguire, Corvan.

BULLEEN 1 NORTHCOTE 0

Bulleen closed out its second State League season with a disappointing 1-0 defeat against Northcote at the Veneto Club on Saturday.

Despite the result Bulleen is certain to stay in contention for Victoria's 1990 Super League after cementing a place in the league top 10.

It struggled to a win against a Northcote team missing two suspended former Rothmans Medal winners, Paul Harris and Martin Woodall.

Northcote, in possibly its last game under coach Jim Pyrgolios, might have taken a 49th minute lead when Nick Constantinou hit the crossbar.

But Bulleen, which

had pressured early without success, including a Tony Curalli shot which hit the woodwork, couldn't hold out and John Burgess grabbed Northcote's winner in the 62nd minute.

BULLEEN: Roccioletti, Marsan, Curulli, Krajacic, Dal Ben, Livingstone, Avian, Ruccia, O'Keefe — O'Keefe replaced by Fijian, Lujic, Incantalupo, Angele.

NORTHCOTE: Turudla, Bekiaris, N. Constantinou, Kouremenous, Burlak, Burgess, Tsangas (P. Constantinou), Gymnopoulos, Ramos, Coker, J. Constantinou.

BOX HILL 1 ST ALBANS 0

Box Hill jumped away from the two dreaded relegation places when it upset inform finals team St Albans 1-0 on Sunday.

Box Hill boss John Brown paid tribute to his fighting outfit for a top performance when it counted against a classy St Albans side.

A first half strike by McGeachey settled the issue against a St Albans side which had little to play for on the eve of the top four play-off.

BOX HILL: McKinley, Davis, Dimatrellis, Cooper, MacLeod, McArthur, Thomas, Lavale, McAleer, McGeachey, McPhee.

ST ALBANS: Vunderli, Babic, Dragovic, Colina, Bozic, Kuzman, Culina, Kupresak, Gagula, Morovic, Eres.

GREEN GULLY 1 FAWKNER 0

A desperate Fawknar gave high-flying Green Gully a run for its money before going down at Gully Reserve on Sunday.

A 40th minute Tom Daly winner gave Gully the points and leave that club lamenting its disappointing opening to the season.

Gully, which finished the season poised just outside the top four, is now rated the best side to be missing from the top four play-offs after its recent run.

But all credit to Fawknar for its fighting display in a match it could easily have drawn after George Campbell was denied an equaliser by the woodwork late in the game.

G. GULLY: Sant, Hogben, McMillan, McLelland, Chetcuti, Wilson, Farquarson, Pender, Daly, Smart, Elsey (Metaxas).

FAWKNER: Terzini, Cosentino, Schipano, Petricca, Tubic, Marchetti, Sabatino, O'Dell, Hanna (Falcone), Campbell, Emanuele.

THOMASTOWN 2 SPRINGVALE 1

Thomastown finished its season on a high note when it downed relegation-doomed Springvale City in a battle filled with youth on both sides.

Springvale could consider itself unlucky not to at least have snared a draw after it applied enormous pressure on Thomastown's defence in the second half but sweeper Russell Athersych marshalled his defence with distinction.

Thomastown 'keeper Zoran Janakievski also proved a major thorn to Springvale's chances with a fine display cap-

ped off with two brilliant close-range saves.

Italian-backed Thomastown's opening goal was scored when Mihailidis forced Dean Bryden to turn the ball into his own net after intense goalmouth pressure.

Springvale's Fournas equalised for his side with a goalmouth scramble directly from a corner kick.

Thomastown's winning goal arrived late in the game after a high ball into the area from Russell Athersych was finished off by a superb Dean Hennessey header into the top corner of the net.

THOMASTOWN: Janakievski, Ragusa, Mihos (P. de Propertis), Hennessey, Athersych, Kapollitis, Cozzo, Fedele, Sinclair, V. de Propertis, Griffin, Mihailidis.

SPRINGVALE: Brian, Armstrong (White 71), Reilly, Bryden (Keenan 21), Bissinger, Findlay, Adams, Fournas, Webster, Tuffield, Krall.

POLONIA 0 ALTONA GATE 1

Altona Gate completed its first-ever season in the State League a creditable seventh after this win over bottom-placed Polonia.

Altona gave several youngsters a chance to impress for this encounter and two of them really made their mark.

Left winger Zoran Todorovski (17 years old) and midfielders Arthur Davis (18) especially stood out.

Young Davis set up the only goal of the match in the 62nd minute when he unselfishly put through Goran Georgevski, who used his speed to outpace the Polonia defence then rounded 'keeper 'Barney' Kozrzewa to score from an acute angle in the end.

Kebakoski, Markovski and Byrne were Altona's best for the day and according to clubman, Vic Trajceviski, big defender Tom Markovski was his side's best player for season '89.

ALTONA GATE: Lee, Micevski, Momorovski, Markovski, Byrne, Nicoski, Kebakoski, Davis, Georgevski, McMullen, Todorovski.

POLONIA: Kozrzewa, Farugia, Bilcharz, Flemming, Innes, Czaplak, Nelson, Stefanic (Cortis), Temos, Baron, Bonk.

CROYDON 1 FRANKSTON PINES 0

Croydon maintained its third position status after an unconvincing victory over lowly Frankston Pines in a scrappy encounter.

As a result, Frankston Pines missed out on super league promotion by four clear points, that's of course if the new league eventuates, which now appears likely.

Croydon's winning goal was deflected into the net off a Pines' defender from a forceful Ian Dobson header directly off a corner kick.

The end result could easily have been 5-2 in favour of Croydon if it hadn't been for some spectacular goalkeeping by 18-year-old Lee Davies, who has stamped himself as a

'keeper of the future after some remarkable displays this season.

CROYDON: Nobile, Roodhouse, Gabrielson, Dobson, McIntosh, Van Egmond (Malcolm), Brown, Field, G. Runje, Humble, Scott (Brack).

FRANKSTON PINES: Davies, Watson, McDonald, Buchanan (Tennent), Weir (sent off 85), Gasallian, Ross (Coletti), Gillard, Keenan, Stirton, Miller.

JUVENTUS 3 CAULFIELD 0

Juventus completed its state league campaign with a 3-0 rout of Caulfield.

Juventus played with renewed zest after the VSF board turned an early season draw against Fawknar into a 3-0 victory for the side because Fawknar played two ineligible players.

Juventus are now awaiting the result of yet another appeal and could yet win the title in the board room at Morwell's expense.

For the first time in several weeks Juventus' front-line came up with trumps with Sean Lane and Charlie Egan running a disappointing Caulfield off its legs.

Lane opened the scoring with a dynamic shot from outside the area. Egan followed up with a powerful close-range blast for number two and Egan himself rounded off the scoreline when he was left unmarked for a simple goal from a Steve Glockner cross.

JUVENTUS: Laumets, Della, Rolla, Coady, Di Amicis, Belle, Lane, Glandomeni, Patterson (Palleschi), Egan, Minichello, Glockner (Glacchierini).

CAULFIELD: Koroneos, Bitsonis, Zolaterov, Dimovski, Fattore, Theoharous, Fillipou, Aretis (Illaskos), Deligiannis, Mavridis, Greenwood.

NSL PLAYOFF

Adelaide Hellas will meet either Brunswick Juventus or Morwell Falcons at Hindmarsh Stadium today (Wednesday) at 7.30pm.

The return game is at a Melbourne ground to be decided on Sunday, October 1 at 2.30pm.

The winner on aggregate goals qualifies for the NSL's inaugural summer season, kicking off on November 5.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

The VSF Tribunal was due to hear the case as we went to press on Monday night with an appeal, should Juve lose the case, to be heard last night (Tuesday).

The matter had to be settled to decide whether Morwell or Juventus would run out on the park tonight (Wednesday) in the first leg of the play-off to decide which club is promoted to the NSL for the 1989/90 season.



Caulfield's long-serving Andy Theoharous (right) gets his shot away in 1987 State League action.

VICTORIAN DIV 1

Albion 1 Sandringham 0, Broadmeadows 0 Mooroolbark 0, Dandenong 1 Westgate 0, Knox City 1 Essendon City 1, Mordialloc 1 Western Suburbs 0, Nunawading 0 Oakleigh 4, Werribee 1 Doveton 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Albion	25	13	10	2	32	15	36
Mooroolbark	24	13	7	4	39	18	33
Oakleigh	23	10	9	4	35	29	29
Knox	24	12	4	8	39	33	28
Sandringham	26	10	7	9	41	33	27
West Sub	25	8	9	8	26	28	25
Doveton	26	10	5	11	30	41	25
Essendon	26	8	8	10	25	33	24
Broad	26	8	8	10	26	27	24
Mordialloc	24	7	10	7	28	31	24
Werribee	25	8	6	11	25	36	22
Westgate	23	8	5	10	28	24	21
Nunawading	22	6	7	9	32	35	19
Dandenong	25	2	3	20	18	50	7

McKendry in



HEIDELBERG, now in the Victorian State League, has replaced coach Miron Bleiberg with Len McKendry.

Victorian State League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morwell Falcons	30	18	9	3	61	23	45
* Juventus	30	18	8	4	52	20	44
Croydon City	30	18	5	7	47	17	41
St Albans	30	15	9	6	41	23	39
Green Gully	30	16	4	10	57	31	36
Northcote City	30	15	6	9	37	29	36
Altona Gate	30	11	10	9	41	33	32
Caulfield City	30	12	7	11	46	46	31
Thomastown	30	10	10	10	32	39	30
Bulleen	30	10	7	13	24	31	27
Frankston Pines	30	7	10	13	31	54	23
Box Hill	30	5	12	13	25	40	22
Ringwood City	30	7	8	15	26	52	22
Fawknar	30	8	5	17	28	44	21
Springvale City	30	6	8	16	21	33	20
Polonia	30	3	4	23	19	76	10

* The August 30 1-1 draw between Fawknar and Juventus was officially reverted to a 3-0 Juventus victory by the VSF board last week. The board deemed Fawknar played two ineligible players, Andy O'Dell and Willie Raynes who hadn't completed their three-week suspensions.

Results

MORWELL FALCONS 4 (Manley, Walsh, Wright, McBride), RINGWOOD CITY 0. BULLEEN 0 NORTHCOTE 1 (Burgess), THOMASTOWN 2 (o.g. Hennessey) S'VALE 1 (Fournas), CROYDON 1 (o.g.) FRANKSTON PINES 0, JUVENTUS 3 (Egan 2, Lane) CAULFIELD 0, BOX HILL 1 (McGeachey) ST ALBANS 0, GREEN GULLY 1 (Daley) FAWKNER 0, POLONIA 0 ALTONA GATE 1 (Georgevski).

Top Scorers

20: C. Pappas (Caulfield) 16: K. Harrison (G. Gully) 15: Morovic (St Alb) 14: C. Egan (Juve), Humble (Croyd), K. McKullen (Alt G), T. Daley (G. Gully) 12: B. Wright (M. Falcons).

NSL CLUBS REVISITED

Preston Makedonia can do better in '89/90

BY GREG BLAKE

CONTRARY to the opinions of many Preston Makedonia club stalwarts the Connor Reserve outfit DID have a fine season in 1989.

Perhaps a finals berth built up the expectations too much and the one-off elimination final defeat left everyone a little deflated.

But it was a fine effort regardless, and it makes the decision to not reappoint coach Andon Donceviski for another season just a little perplexing.

Preston was never going to win the 1989 championship.

To recruit six new (and expensive) signings and expect a title first up is simply unrealistic.

To build a consistently successful side takes time and I'd be very surprised if the new season isn't the one in which Preston stamps its class on the competition.

Preston splashed out a cool near \$100,000 to secure the services of John Markovski, Andrew Zinni, Warren Spink, Robbie Markovac and Robert Runje for season 1989 and all gave value for money.

Things didn't start with too much promise as Preston lost its first two league games but a run of 12 games undefeated between rounds 3 and 15 (for seven wins and five draws)



Preston's John Markovski

put the club safely into the top five long before the finals.

Preston should have held the double-chance and given itself a realistic chance of making its mark on the finals.

But just one point from three final away games in Sydney cost Preston dearly in the end.

Of the new signings, Zinni did best as he produced his best form since the heady championship days with Juventus back in the mid-1980s.

Spink, as always,

was value for money although Markovski struggled to make his mark at times, presumably carrying the burden of his match-winner tag on his shoulders.

Preston's defence, led superbly by Steve Jackson and Phil Traianedes, finished the equal most efficient of any in the league.

Jackson has had a marvellous two seasons and now must rank in the best five defenders in the country.

Traianedes, after

feeling the pinch last year as the club made public its quest for a new custodian, fought his way back to form and ended as one of the few ever-presents in the league.

All credit to George Jolevski, who finally had the chance to make a first team spot his own and he did so in style.

Ian Roodhouse is another unsung hero of the Preston team.

So if the defence was solid and the goalscoring talent, at least potentially is there (and probably would have been more apparent had sharp-shooter Steve Smith not been so troubled by injury) then Preston must only look to strengthen its midfield.

There is no doubt this was the club's achilles heel in 1989.

What the club could do with a playmaker in the mould of a Mike Petersen or Zeljko Adzic.

I have a feeling Preston isn't far away from success.

There is too much talent at Connor Reserve to write the club off for another season.

New coach Jancev, particularly with his background as Donceviski's assistant, could be set to lead the club to an era of success.

There is no doubt that Preston Makedonia has the potential to go a couple of rungs higher on the NSL ladder next year.

Ernie Merrick's no lone foot-soldier

BY GREG BLAKE

ERNIE Merrick is sick of feeling like he's a third grader who has been asked to sit for an HSC exam.

Or like a lone foot-soldier about to take on a Panzer division armed with a pea-shooter.

One Melbourne newspaper heralded his arrival as the new coach of Sunshine George Cross with a headline proclaiming "Welcome To Your Nightmare Ernie."

Sure, he knows the Sunshine George Cross job is as difficult as they come.

But the club isn't as badly off as it looks, at least as far as the affable Merrick is concerned.

"It's going to be a hell of a job," Merrick admitted to ASW.

"But with a wee bit of help from the committee and the players, and a lot of hard work, we can achieve plenty."

"I'm not silly enough to make rash predictions but I believe we can be a middle-of-the-road team in 1989/90."

"And perhaps if we can bring a few younger players, maybe we can look to a place in the top five the year after."

Merrick, along with assistant Ian Greener, has moved into Chaplin Reserve for the next two seasons.

Merrick, whose last job at Preston Makedonia bought enormous success and then inexplicable failure, is confident he can do what outgoing coach John Gardiner struggled to do and make George Cross a top five team.

"As long as George Cross fans don't expect miracles in the first year I believe there is a future here," he says with admirable gusto.

"Of course, there's a lot of work to do but you don't get handed top of the league jobs. This year the club finished one point off relegation and that was where Preston was when I took over."

"Perhaps there was a little greater depth of players at Preston at that time but the challenge is the same. To be honest, I'm happy to be in the job."

"It's a challenge and I appreciate that. In many ways it's better to start at the bottom and for the club to be realistic in what they are trying to achieve."

If nothing else, Merrick is fired up about his new job. After 18 months on the coaching scrapheap he is thrilled to be back on deck after pushing Makedonia to the league runner-up spot in 1987.

Merrick looked set for a long term in charge at Connor Reserve.

But the business turned sour when Preston failed to win any of its first eight games of 1988 and Merrick was promptly dismissed and



GEORGE ALEVISOS — one of the talented Sunshine youngsters new coach Merrick is banking on for a successful 1989/90 season.

left with a year of legal hassles as he tried to sort out his contract with that club.

Now he's thrown his lot in with the NSL's perennial also-rans and it looks for all the world like a make-or-break situation for the 34-year-old.

"I'm not saying that — only the press is saying that," he told ASW.

"I don't see it as that at all and I'm certainly not about to take a defeatist attitude into the job. My enthusiasm is up and I'm very much looking forward to the new season."

"Anyway there are always jobs going in the lower leagues," he added, very much tongue in cheek.

Merrick is full of praise for the man he replaced at George Cross, but says he will surprise a few people with the way his new team approaches games in the new season.

"At one stage the team went 10 games without scoring last year and to me that's just not good enough."

"It's no reflection on John Gardiner, he did a great job to keep the team up for so long. But we will not be defending every week."

"It's easy to go out and play five at the back and just rely on guys like Paul Lewis and Ossie Latif to score on the break. That might be the safe way but it won't be my way."

Merrick obviously has plans to keep Lewis and Latif at Chaplin Re-

serve for 1989/90 but he refuses to be drawn on the subject of culling his senior list.

Rumours of mass player sackings at George Cross were rife at the end of the 1989 season.

There were question marks on the future of Carter, McLaren, Taylor, Lennon, Faulkner, Latif and others just a matter of weeks ago.

"I will be evaluating the senior list in the next few weeks but nothing has been decided as yet," he says.

"I'll be looking for a couple of experienced players but I will not be making any decisions about the current players yet."

Merrick said the only player definitely not lining up for the summer season is Irishman Pat Morley who has returned home after less than a year in Australia.

Merrick is resigned to the fact that George Cross is going to lose good players to keep the club financially stable.

"It must have been deflating for John (Gardiner) to bring on the likes of Markovski and Trimboli only to see them move on."

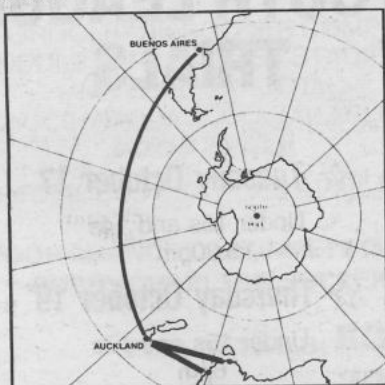
"But I guess you've just got to be pragmatic about it. That's a situation I can do little about and I just want to get on with the job of coaching this team to the best of my abilities."

"I believe I have something to offer. I've told George Cross that if the club is relegated this year I will resign."

The South American Express

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Western NSW winners of the Commonwealth Bank Turner Cup, Red Bend College, Forbes.

Back Row: Mrs Jacqueline Le Cornu — Teacher in charge (and 7½ months pregnant), Tim Tisdell, Adrian Murphy, Andrew Malloy, Anthony Szabo, Damien Anderson, Andrew Toohey, Jamie Toohey, Tim Malloy, Mr Bryson Rees — School Assistant. Front Row: Sam Cunningham, Nicolas Field, Paul Cunningham, Richard Pearson, Matthew Wright, Daniel Murphy, Scott D'Ombrian. Absent: John Harris Coach. Andrew Malloy and Anthony Szabo are holding aloft the Western Area championship shield.

Women's Nationals

Vics oust Queensland in final

BY GRAHAM COOKE

VICTORIAN women's soccer coach Jim Southern is a man who leaves nothing to chance.

Before his team's AWSA national final with South Queensland on Saturday he prepared his players for the possibility of a penalty kick series should the scores finish level at the end of extra time.

"Everyone knew the order in which the kicks would be taken," he said.

And his organisation paid off with Victoria winning the penalty contest 5-3, after 90 minutes of play at O'Connor Oval, Canberra had failed to separate the teams at 1-1.

The Queenslanders led with a goal midway through the first half.

Marie Grant broke down the right and crossed to the hard working Kaylene Janssen.

Her first shot was blocked but a hesitating defence allowed her to have a second bite and this time there was no mistake.

Both sides were feeling the effects of a week of competition and for a long period in the second half it seemed the goal might settle the issue, but one player who wasn't giving up was Charity James in the Victorian front line.

With 56 minutes gone she collected the ball on the run and came under immediate pressure from Michelle Sawyers and Joanne Millman.

Goalkeeper Susan Clayton made a brave save at her feet but referee Carl Thayer immediately pointed to the penalty spot.

The decision sparked a storm of anger from the Queensland gallery, but Thayer confirmed afterwards that the foul had occurred a split second before when one of the defenders had held James back with her body.

"The goalkeeper's save was not a factor," he said.

Up stepped Andrea Martin, still one of the sweetest strikers of a dead ball in women's football, and her shot gave Clayton no chance.

The equaliser revived the game.

Judy Pettit was just ahead of eager Queensland Leanne Priestley in turning the ball back to Theresa Jones, then Sharon Wass's cross found Priestley unmarked but she took too long about a shot, finally having to lay the ball off to Donna Fredrickson who blazed over.

Jane Oakley could have wrapped it up for Victoria in the first half of extra time, her free kick beating the defensive wall and goalkeeper Jones, only to rap against the crossbar, while at the other end substitute Tammy Fiby was giving the Victorian defence a lot of trouble with her crosses.

The goalkeepers had a bad time in the penalty shootout.

Martin, Debbie Nichols and Fiona Young netted for Victoria, Joanne Millman and Wass for Queensland before Jones managed to palm away Sawyers' effort.

Janine McPhee put Victoria 4-2 up, Priestley kept Queensland alive before Oakley put the destination of the 1989 championship beyond doubt by giving her side an unbeatable 5-3 lead.

Victorian coach Southern said he had never a doubt about the outcome of the game.

"I was happy to go in one down at halftime," he said. "I just told them to keep playing their game and the equaliser would come."

He had no comment about whether he would be continuing with the team.

THERE is a mixture of youth and experience in the 1989/90 Australian women's squad, announced at the end of the national championships in Canberra last week.

National coach Steve Derby said he had selected the squad with the 1991 World Cup in mind.

"I have selected 16 dedicated senior players who can play right now at the top level, plus four youngsters with exciting talents who, I believe, will be at the height of their powers in two years' time."

"Having seen international competition in China and at the Oceania Cup, I know it is essential our top players not only have playing ability but the speed to compete with the Asians and Scandinavians."

"The players will now be given a 15-week fitness programme which I have based on that adopted by the Australian women's hockey team which won a gold medal at the Seoul Olympics."

The squad is: Jane Oakley, Debbie Nichols, Janine McPhee, Carolyn Monk, Sarah Cooper (Victoria); Joanne Millman, Michelle Sawyers, Sharon Hass, Kerry Rowe (South Queensland); Tracey Wheeler, Kim Schaefer, Anissa Tann, Carol Vinson, Moya Dodd (NSW); Linda Hughes, Alison Forman (Northern NSW); Sonia Gegenhuber (South Australia); Julie Murray, Angela Iannotta, Alex Focken (ACT).

Second Division Top players of 1989

BY PAUL GOODWIN

COACHES in the NSW Second Division were asked to take part in an exercise where they could choose a team from the resources of all clubs other than their own.

All but two of the clubs' coaches took part and the accumulated votes will be tallied with a final team compiled from the leading vote-getters and printed in ASW next week.

Below are the teams chosen by each of the individual coaches:

ORANGE (Snowy Cousins)
Peter Ahrens (DH), Peter Norman (NSU), John Garrett (MW), Mark Reveley (SM), Peter Willis (FM), Richard Piel (FM), Zaja Jabrael (DH), Jorge Fernandez (SM), Dennis Duarte (GC), Craig Bass (NSU), Zoran Beluzic (Y).

SYDNEY MACEDONIA (Frank Lang)
Graham Cooke (FM), Tony George (GC), Ian Gillan (DH), Robbie Thompson (B), Larry Beringer (FM), Gary Bateman (DH), Gary Hatton (FM), Carlos Donoso (GC), Andy Ferris (GC), Dave White (B), Alan Lippiatt (B75). Reserves: Julio Lobos (GC), Mark Davis (B75).

SSC YUGAL (Joe Alagich)
Antoine Avellino (C), Tony George (GC), Kevin Gaffney (DH), Billy Pilovski (SM), Steve Duffy (DH), Leon Arcosa (SM), Gary Hatton (FM), Scott Gilbert (SM), Dennis Duarte (GC), Craig Bass (NSU), Fabian Kadric (SM). Reserves: Peter Ahrens (DH), John Garrett (MW), Richard Lloyd (FM).

MOUNT DRUITT (George McCulloch)
Rosario Pinto (Y), Greg Eager (FM), John Garrett (MW), Peter Willis (FM), Mark Reveley (SM), Joe Watson (W), Leon Arcosa (SM), Richard Lloyd (FM), Dennis Duarte (GC), Fabian Kadric (SM). Reserves: Graham Cook (FM), Jorge Fernandez (SM), Scott Gilbert (SM), Billy Pilovski (SM).

WAVERLEY (Alex Robertson)
Antoine Avellino (C), Greg Eager (FM), Peter Willis (FM), Mark Davis (B75), Billy Pilovski (SM), Richard Piel (FM), Sasha Spirovski (SM), Peter Treacey (C), Dennis Duarte (GC), Glenn Jeffery (NSU), Fabian Kadric (SM). Reserves: Peter Ahrens (DH), Eddie Tomasic (Y), Peter Norman (NSU), Dave White (B).



Waverley coach Alex Robertson

GRANVILLE-CHILE (Dennis Duarte)
Kevin Farrar (MD), Alan McGrouther (W), Tony Gratwick (NSU), Kevin Gaffney (DH), Billy Pilovski (SM), Gary Hatton (FM), Zaja Jabrael (DH), Leon Arcosa (SM), Neal Hunter (NSU), Wayne Farnsworth (MD), Fabian Kadric (SM). Reserves: Rosario Pinto (Y), Lee Sutherland (NSU), Gary Bateman (DH), Barry Walker (W).

CAMPBELLTOWN VIKINGS (Ray Byles)
Rosario Pinto (Y), Greg Eager (FM), John Devenay (W), Martin Docherty (W), Jim Ziras (DH), Tom Gavin (MW), Richard Lloyd (FM), Leon Arcosa (SM), Peter Norman (NSU), Glenn Jeffery (NSU), Scott Gilbert (SM).

BANKSTOWN (Dennis Madden)
John Filan (SM), Andre Spnovic (Y), Max Simpson (B75), Billy Pilovski (SM), Mark Reveley (SM), Richard Lloyd (FM), Paul Waine (OW), Neal Hunter (NSU), Dennis Duarte (GC), Fabian Kadric (SM). Reserves: Antoine Avellino (C), Scott Gilbert (SM), Theo Kotsias (SM), Ray Eldridge (GH).

DULWICH HILL (Agenor Muniz)
John Filan (SM), Don Campbell (MD), Paul Giraldo (FM), Ray Eldridge (GH), Billy Pilovski (SM), Jorge Fernandez (SM), Mike Berry (NSU), Richard Lloyd (FM), Dennis Duarte (GC), Scott Gilbert (SM), Dave White (B). Reserves: Antoine Avellino (C), Glenn Jeffery (NSU), Fabian Kadric (SM), Larry Beringer.

NORTH SHORE UNITED (Allan Bourke)
Rosario Pinto (Y), Mark Reveley (SM), Ian Gillan (DH), Billy Pilovski (SM), Ashley Williamson (GH), Graeme Williamson (GH), Ian Wotherspoon (C), Leon Arcosa (SM), Marconi da Silva Pereira (GC), Dennis Duarte (GC), Fabian Kadric (SM). Reserves: Peter Ahrens (DH), Gary Hatton (FM), Mark Davis (B75), Andy Ferris (GC).

FAIRY MEADOW UNITED (Glenn Fontana)
Antoine Avellino (C), K. Gaffney (DH), Bale Kotevski (SM), Billy Pilovski (SM), Steve Blackburn (C), Colin Woodward (MW), Jorge Fernandez (SM), Graeme Williamson (GH), Sasha Spirovski (SM), Glenn Jeffery (NSU), Dennis Duarte (GC).

GLADESVILLE-HORNSBY (Les De Celis)
John Filan (SM), Peter Willis (FM), Paul Giraldo (FM), Alec Robertson (W), Billy Pilovski (SM), Leon Arcosa (SM), Graham Poole (B), Paul Waine (OW), Dave White (B), Dennis Duarte (GC), Glenn Jeffery (NSU). Reserves: Glen Hooper (O), Robbie Thompson (B), Jorge Fernandes (SM), Scott Gilbert (SM).

Summer Soccer

PETER ENGLAND WRITES

ADELAIDE Hellas coach Peter Jaksa was quoted in last week's ASW as complaining about the NSL turning to summer soccer.

So Peter, if you don't like it, keep out. It's as simple as that!

The complaints attributed to the West Adelaide coach were:

1. Floodlights in Australia are not suitable.
2. Having to play mid-week games.
3. Just a cosmetic change with no thought for the players.

Methinks the Adelaide coach could be looking for excuses already, before a ball has been kicked.

To answer your complaints, let's examine each individual item.

1. **Floodlights:** I would have thought the installations at Hindmarsh Stadium, Olympic Park, St George Stadium, Marconi, Sydney Croatia and soon at Blacktown City's ground and Melbourne Croatia are more than adequate.

2. **Mid-week Games:** Soccer in most countries plays mid-week games and Australia is no different.

As for players having to take time off work, are players paid in Adelaide?

Some of the asking transfer fees of \$20,000-plus indicates players are well paid.

I know of one top NSL player who combines his normal employment with soccer and earns in excess of \$80,000 a year.

3. **Cosmetics:** If that is the attitude of the Adelaide club, then you are correct — nothing will change.

What about advertising and promotion of the game in Adelaide?

If you get your act together you should be able to increase the attendances dramatically.

Clubs need to go to the public, not sit and hope the public will come to them.

Take a leaf out of Marconi, St George and Blacktown's book, employ marketing people to advertise and promote your home games.

Spend some money

on promotion and be positive not negative.

Think of the opportunities, no Australian rules, no local soccer or indeed any winter codes to compete against.

How much more do you want?

As for playing on a Saturday evening, YES you are 100% correct.

This is the ideal time to play summer soccer.

Next day players, officials and, of course, the supporters can sit and enjoy the sunshine, relaxing in some favourite spot of our lovely country.

What more could you ask for?

I know people in the UK and Europe who would give their right arm to live in a country like Australia, watching their beloved soccer team on a warm sunny evening and relaxing in the sun the next day.

Having another think about summer soccer — it's the best decision the NSL ever made.

Best of luck to Adelaide Hellas in the play-off series.

You still have to qualify for NSL status.

But if you don't, then you won't have to worry about playing in summer.

PICK OF THE POST

Gullit

I'M a weekly reader of Australian Soccer Weekly and in the July 26, 1989 issue the picture of Ruud Gullit caught my eye.

I am wondering if it would be possible for you to send me this picture and any other photos of him.

(Miss) Angela Rizzotto Smithfield 2164

[We regret we cannot oblige at this stage — Ed]

ASW Issues

[J. Hatz West Footscray Vic 3012. Sorry, the issues required are not now available — Ed]

BLACKTOWN CITY SOCCER CLUB

YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

★ Tuesday October 17

Under 13s and 14s
5.30pm

★ Thursday October 19

Under 15s and 17s
6pm

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☎ 579 3675

Success for James Ruse and Hurstville

BY JOE DI MEGLIO

A smaller than expected crowd turned out to see the climax of the school competitions at Melita Stadium last Monday week.

In the first match, James Ruse High defeated Glendale High from Newcastle 1-0, courtesy of a great solo run by Elizabeth Cotton.

Ruse started the stronger of the two sides and could have taken the lead a number of times.

Heloise Gibb found herself unmarked in Glendale close to goal but failed to capitalise on the chance when her cheeky flick went wide in the 32nd minute.

Three minutes later Megan Cotton shot weakly at goal when she too found herself in the middle of some poor Glendale defending.

Despite lapses in concentration, the Newcastle side still enjoyed a fair share of possession.

And they should have scored in the 11th minute of the second half when little Kerry Feighan had beaten the offside trap.

But with the keeper to beat she lost her footing and shot straight at Ruse's star of the semi-final two weeks ago, Tracey Clay.

Glendale then went on the back foot with continuous attacks from the Ruse strikers,

namely the Cotton sisters.

And it was Megan who struck the bottom of the post in the 24th minute after some enterprising running by Gibb on the right.



A dramatic moment during the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup Final played at Macquarie Field, Speers Point. With a last desperate slide, Umina's James Moreland saves an almost certain goal from the feet of Clinton Isaac of Cambridge Park. Cambridge Park came from behind to win 2-1.

But the breakthrough finally arrived in the final six minutes when a run by Elizabeth Cotton down the middle of the field ended with a hard, low shot Glendale goalie Deanne Russell could not save.

Ruse almost added to the score a minute from time with Megan Cotton hitting the outside of the post after a goalmouth mix-up.

James Ruse deserved their win, but

the Newcastle side played very well and were still in the match up to the last 20 minutes when the Cotton sisters went on the rampage and then it was just a matter of time for Ruse.

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP

In the boys' competition, Hurstville Boys High scored three times in three minutes to run out deserved winners over a gallant Drummoyne side.

In a quiet first half dominated by slow

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The "general" of the Hurstville side, Sasha Lazerevski, made a run down the right, tearing apart the Drummoyne defence and putting a fierce low cross into the middle, which was mistimed by all defenders in front of the goalmouth and Elvis Mirecevski at the far post drove home a rocket-like shot into the corner of the goal.

Then in the next two minutes Kakakios collected two goals to send his team and supporters into joyous celebrations.

Drummoyne also had their chances but the substitution of their most dangerous player, Argiridakis, weakened the team.

But Hurstville, straight from a 3-0 win two weeks ago in the semi-final against Westfields High, showed why they were the favourites to win the title.

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The awards for the two competitions were presented to the players on the night and this is how they were awarded:

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The new canteen, the meetings, the hours upon hours on unpaid voluntary effort that went into creating a club and keeping costs down.

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SOCCER COACHING COURSE

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BOYS AND GIRLS 8-18 YEARS

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THE ULTIMATE XMAS GIFT



COMMONWEALTH BANK

BILL TURNER CUP FINAL

**SPECIAL
ASW
PICTORIAL**



Bill Turner is seen here announcing the winner of the \$200 Commonwealth Bank Club Australia Star Player Award for the 1989 competition. It was won by Andrew Nobbs of Trinity College, Lis- more seen at left. Andrew has tremendous potential.

**RECORD ENTRY
414 SCHOOLS
TEAMS**



"We are the champions!" Cambridge Park High from Sydney, the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup squad members joyously tell the world that they are the champions for 1989. Back Row: 1 to r: Chris Duffett, Mark Strachan, Craig Loxley, Gavin Lee, Robert Pejovic (obscured), Brad Day, Craig Williams, Nathan MacAllister, Scott Monk (partly obscured), Neil Lampard. Front: Steven Wragg, Tim Rosa, Michael White (captain), Clinton Isaac, Mathew Ness, Jason Bentley (No. 1 Supporter) Paul Norwood, whilst self-appointed mascot Jenny Duffett joins the celebrations.



Cambridge Park HS defender Michael White had his work cut out to stop the brilliant Umina striker Matthew Highway from scoring a second goal. Cambridge Park won the final 2-1 in a great football spectacle.



Mr Paul Dunn, Chief Manager of the Commonwealth Bank at Newcastle, presents Gavin Lee of Cambridge Park with his winners' medal. Gavin had a strong game and certainly looks to be a player of the future. Nathan MacAllister awaits his turn. Standing at back is the senior co-ordinator of the competition Terry Hampton, Science Master at Wallsend High School.



Umina's Matthew Highway splits Cambridge Park defenders Gavin Lee and Michael White to shoot for goal in the Cup final. On this occasion the shot was spectacularly saved by the Cambridge Park goalkeeper Chris Duffett, allowing his side to win the Cup for 1989 by the odd goal in three.



Brett Makepeace of Umina High meets Mr Doug Fairclough, Senior officer of the Commonwealth Bank, Cardiff. In the background is Senior Cup Co-ordinator, Terry Hampton. — Photo: LLOYD TURNER



Umina goalkeeper David O'Connor arrives just in the nick of time to prevent Cambridge Park's Mark Strachan from taking full advantage of this goalscoring opportunity as tague of this goalscoring opportunity looks on. Umina's David Allerton looks on. Cambridge Park, after being down 1-0, came back to win 2-1 thanks to two brilliant goals from Craig Loxley.



Finalists in the 1989 Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup — UMINA HIGH from the NSW Central Coast. Back Row: Kevin Smith (coach) Chris Young, David Loo, Gary Cross, David O'Connor, Andrew Hubbard, David Allerton, Brett Makepeace, Scott Rochford. Middle: Jason Hynds, Ivan Gage, Mark Gribble (captain), Adam Gray, Brad Mertens, Shaun Duggan. Front: David Gleeson, Peter Croft, James Moreland, Matthew Highway, Glen Minnett.



Craig Loxley (second on the right) from Cambridge Park caused no end of trouble for the Umina defence in the final of the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup. Umina players from left are Mark Gribble, James Moreland and David Allerton (in background).

Blakehurst High on the up and up

BY GARY AUSTIN



BLAKEHURST HIGH 1989: Back row (l to r) — Mirko Dominikovic, Chris Xipolitas, David Humphreys, Mite Talceviski, Tony Moros. Middle row — Nicholas Chung, Rubin Burmuzoski, Jovan Ckorovski, Nicky Smyrnios, coach G. Austin, Tony Kostadinovski. Front row — Nicki Bosevski, Sokrati Bakafoukas, Tony Bregovic, Ian Persi. Absent: Dominic Usalj, Paul Zantiotis, Brandon Rossen, Anthony Johnson.

BLAKEHURST High is more renowned for its academic performances than for its achievements on the football field.

This has probably been more to do with its location within a region rich in footballing talent than in the ability of its football teams.

This year, however, the schools Common-

wealth Bank Bill Turner Cup squad contains 11 players with Youth League experience.

The player with the most representative honours is Dominic Usalj, a current NSW representative and a member of the St George Youth League team.

Other players who also play for St George are: Jovan Ckorovski, Tony Moros, Ian Per-

si, Mite Talceviski, Brandon Rossen and Nicki Bosevski, with Nicholas Chung and Paul Zantiotis having played at this level in the past.

As well as these St George players, Tony Kostadinovski plays for Bankstown Youth, Sokrati Bakafoukas for Canterbury-Marrickville Youth and Chris Xipolitas has played for Canterbury-Marrickville in the past.

The other squad members are David Humphreys and Anthony Johnson (Connells Point), Rubin Burmuzoski (Rockdale Illinden), Mirko Dominikovic and Tony Bregovic.

By combining their experience and skill with great dedication and commitment, the team has become a very well-balanced and effective football side.

In fact, it took the eventual Cup winners Cambridge Park to eliminate Blakehurst from the competition in a sparkling pre-quarter-final match.

To reach the last 16, Blakehurst defeated Woollooware 6-0, St Patricks, Sutherland 2-0, Kirrawee 3-0, Sydney Tech 1-0 and Kingsgrove North on penalties in the Sydney Area E final.

It is hoped the success of this team will see Blakehurst High become more of a force in such competitions in the future.

NSW take U14 Nationals again

NSW proved too strong in the under 14 national titles held at Bundaberg, Queensland last week, winning the championship undefeated with the strong Victorians finishing runners-up.

Victoria led on goal averages early in the week before stumbling to a 1-1 draw with South Australia on day four, which left NSW one point ahead after a sound 4-0 white-washing of Northern NSW.

Victoria appeared to fall apart at the seams following the draw, and the following day could not contain NNSW, who always looked to be in control by holding out the tournament's top scorer Valado Trpceviski.

The under 14 titles were used to select a squad of 30 players to be placed under the wing of national coach Frank Arok, who will oversee the lads during the next eight months as they prepare for next year's under 15 titles.

Following these titles a final squad will be selected.

These players will then be taken into camp, at which the next under 16 Joeys team will be selected

to attempt to win a place in the 1991 under 16 World Cup.

The initial squad selected by Queensland Director of Coaching, Bruce Stowell is expected to be announced soon.

Stowell indicated that he was disappointed in the standard of the national titles, and said his job had been made more difficult by some teams being determined to win and consequently stifling the natural ability of their players.

NSW have not lost a national title for two years and they will be keen to regain both the under 13 and 15 crowns during the next two weeks.

The under 13s started one day late in Coffs Harbour last Sunday after the Western Australian team had been delayed due to transport problems.

The big clash between NSW and Victoria was won by the Blues 2-0, setting themselves up for yet another under 13 national title.

DAY 1: ACT 3 (B. Hara, D. Milin, D. Jukic) defeated SA 1 (J. Fontanarosa) NSW 0 drew with Victoria 0.

WA 3 (V. Kalogeracos 3) defeated Queensland 2 (M. Andjelkovic, M. Crawford) Tasmania 2 (W. Isles, N. McLeod) defeated NNSW 0.

DAY 2: NSW 3 (D. Dunseath, P. Dee, M. Jerman) defeated QLD 2 (M. Andjelkovic, J. Wilks) SA 2 (P. Galantomos, J. Fontarosa) defeated Tas-

mania 1 (A. Berry) ACT 1 (B. Kover) defeated NNSW 0.

Victoria 2 (J. Maiale, A. Keratzoglou) defeated WA 0.

DAY 3: QLD 6 (C. Moore, L. Cocq 3, M. Andjelkovic 2) defeated Tasmania 0. Victoria 6 (A. Healy 2, V. Trpceviski 3, A. Keratzoglou) defeated ACT 0. NNSW 2 (D. Lockhardt, L. Wells) defeated WA 0.

NSW 2 (F. Macolino 2) defeated SA 1 (J. Tsekis).

DAY 4: WA 2 (A. Carbone, A. Biundo) defeated Tasmania 0. Victoria 1 (J. Maiale) drew with SA 1 (P. Galantomos).

NSW 4 (T. Josevski, D. locca, D. Usalj, L. Campagna) defeated NNSW 0.

QLD 1 (A. Vulinovich) drew with ACT 1 (D. Dukic).

DAY 5: NNSW 2 (T. Brown, A. Cracknell) defeated Victoria 1 (V. Trpceviski). WA 2 (P. Drobniak, V. Kalogeracos)

drew with ACT 2 (M. Spralja, D. Dukic). QLD 2 (M. Crawford, M. Norris) defeated SA 0. NSW 2 (L. Di Blasio, M. Jerman) defeated Tasmania 0.

DAY 6: Victoria 3 (V. Trpceviski 3) defeated QLD 2 (R. Le Cocq, A. Vulinovich). ACT 2 (D. Millin 2) drew with Tasmania 2 (A. Berry 2). NSW 2 (L. Campagna, M. Jerman) defeated WA 1 (A. Biundo). SA 1 (J. Carreno) defeated NNSW 0.

DAY 7: NSW 4 (M. Jerman, D. Dunseath, L. Campagna, D. locca) defeated ACT 0. QLD 1 (R. Le Cocq) defeated NNSW 0.

Victoria 7 (T. Liakos, V. Trpceviski 2, J. Maiale, P. Grella 2, D. Anile) defeated Tasmania 0. SA 3 (J. Tsekis, A. Konstad, J. Carreno) defeated WA 2 (V. Kalogeracos, V. Tana).

South Victorious

THE South was victorious against the North at both senior and under-21 levels in the recent Tasmanian intrastate soccer matches played at Knight's Road in Ulverstone.

At senior level, the South won 6-5 after penalties, while in the under-21 match, the Southerners triumphed 2-0.

The senior match was level at 1-1 after the regulation 90 minutes, and 2-2 at the end of extra time. Kevin Smith of Devonport City scoring both the North's goals with White Eagle's Brett Harwood hitting the two Southern replies.

In the penalty shoot-out, Kevin Smith, Andrew Howe, Luigi Gugliotti and Scipio Luttmner scored for the North while the Cadbury State League top scorer Peter Sawdon missed his spot-kick in the first round of five kicks for each team.

For the South, Chris Hey, Scott Young, Ian Parker and Michael Berwick were successful, while Craig Pitt missed.

The contest then became sudden death, with the North's Billy Frame and the South's Brett Harwood both missing.

Steve Foley was off target with the North's next kick, and it was left to Remeo Trediani to clinch victory.

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ALAN CLARK REVIEWS

The Soccer Scene
in . . .

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Foundation S.A.

PROMOTING A STATE OF HEALTH

ADELAIDE City are to look interstate for new faces for the summer NSL season.

"There are no ifs or buts, I'm back and the hard work must start," said reappointed coach Zoran Matic.

"As we did not change the coach, we need some new blood to rebuild the side and re-new zest."

"A midfielder who can score goals would be good but we shall look at all available quality players who can walk into the NSL side."

"It will be difficult, though, as we cannot offer as much financially as some clubs to get people to move here. But we expect some news soon."

WA could be a hunting ground for City.

MIDFIELDER David Clarkson is back in Adelaide for talks with Adelaide City.

The club has said it is willing to listen to offers for the former AIS and Brisbane Lions player who left the club midway through last season to relax and recuperate from a groin injury.

Sunshine George Cross has made an approach for the player, who is to talk over his future with City coach Zoran Matic.

ADELAIDE City may withdraw from next year's Ampol Cup night series.

The traditional Cup series from January next season will be played on Friday nights and as City then will be at the height of their NSL campaign

they might not be able to field their strongest side because of summer soccer commitments on Friday nights.

City president Charlie Caruso said his club was obligated to field its strongest side.

City have protested to the SA Soccer Federation over the switch in Cup schedule but if they withdraw, USC Lion will be brought into the night series.

CBC has won the Saturday Amateur League title.

They finished three points ahead of Adelaide Rodos and Olympic.

Salisbury Inter again are Sunday Division One champions. They lost only three goals in notching 30 points — three more than runner-up Elizabeth Vale.

Promoted sides in other main divisions — TWO: Para Hills East and The Cove; THREE: Salisbury East and Campbelltown; FOUR: Adelaide Eagles and Austria; FIVE: Blackwood and Salisbury Utd.

SEAFORD had a President's Cup day to remember against local rivals Noarlunga.

Their senior side won 5-3, the reserves finished 2-1 up and the juniors were 3-0 victors in the annual Cup day.

The Seaford Super Cup seven-a-side tournament starts on Friday, November 3.

Four of the required eight teams already have nominated and other interested participants should contact Gerry Rowling on 386 2504.



Gary Price (on the extreme right) about to score for Birkalla in the South Australian State League — JANUSZ KAMMA photo.

Ground on way for Sydney Olympic

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC could get land for a ground, if what was said last week at a special function staged by the State Premier Nick Greiner proves correct.

The highly polished and perceptive Premier briefly mentioned: "Soccer deserves better treatment than it has been getting as against the other sports."

"Sydney Olympic is looking for their own home ground and we will endeavour to help them in the near future".



Sydney Olympic president George Paschalis with Nick Greiner . . . ground talk?

Sydney Olympic president George Paschalis said: "After our hopes of being allocated a ground in Bonds Road, Punchbowl were dashed by the local council and residents, we sent a delegation to the Premier's Department seeking urgent assistance to find a ground."

"They were most sympathetic and almost immediately came up with a possible choice of no less than five prospective sites near the Canterbury Racecourse."

"Although our discussions are at an embryonic stage, they have been extremely encouraging."

Mr Greiner, who has shown an interest in soccer since migrating to Australia from his native Hungary with his family 35 years ago,

ter, the one-time bustling Cessnock centre-forward.

NSW WOMEN'S SL

DIVISION ONE				
Liverpool OI	14	12	1	29 9 25
Putney Town	14	10	3	1 65 12 23
Mt Druitt	13	8	2	3 44 30 18
Blacktown	14	7	1	6 22 12 15
Epping East	13	6	3	4 32 20 14
Central Coast	14	2	2	10 7 41 6
Shamrocks	14	3	1	10 10 37 5
Sutherland	14	2	0	12 12 60 4

DIVISION TWO				
Southern NSW	14	11	1	2 55 20 23
Putney Town	14	10	2	2 31 12 22
Epping-East	14	9	1	4 44 21 19
Liverpool OI	14	7	2	5 22 17 16
Mt Druitt	14	4	3	7 17 24 11
Blacktown	14	4	1	9 12 21 9
Gladesville	14	3	2	9 13 37 8
Sydney OI	14	1	2	11 5 47 4

UNDER 17				
Blacktown	14	9	4	1 36 9 22
Moorebank	14	8	5	1 38 7 21
Gladesville	14	6	5	3 23 9 17
Mt Pritchard	13	6	4	3 33 12 16
Bass Hill	14	3	7	4 30 20 13
Sydney OI	13	5	2	6 17 20 12
St Marys	14	3	4	7 30 40 10
Richmond	14	0	0	14 2 92 0

NSW WOMEN

DURING the past week a number of games were played which finally decided the champions and runners-up in all divisions.

In Division I Putney Town defeated Mt Druitt 4-0 to take outright second place.

In Division 2 Southern NSW defeated Epping-Eastwood 3-1 and drew 2-2 with Putney Town to win the league and gain promotion to Division 1 next year.

Putney Town defeated Mt Druitt 2-0 to hold second spot.

U17 had already been decided with Blacktown the winners and Moorebank being the runners-up.

State Cup

The 1989 State Cup has now reached the semi-finals stage in the seniors and the final has been played in U17.

The U17 final has borne out the final placings in the league with Blacktown and Moorebank winning their respective semi-finals albeit after close games.

Moorebank defeated Bass Hill only after penalties and Blacktown won 2-0 with the last goal coming in the very last minute.

The final was again a very close game with Moorebank revenging their second placing in the league by defeating Blacktown 2-1 after extra time.

In the seniors the quarter-finals went as expected with the four WSL sides going into the semi-finals.

The semi-finals have pitted the first versus second in the league in what should be a very close encounter.

The other semi-final has Blacktown being a slight favourite to defeat Central Coast in what should also be a tight affair.

UNDER 17

Semi-final: Blacktown v Gladesville Ravens 2-0, Bass Hill v Moorebank 1g3pen 1g4pen.

Final: Moorebank v Blacktown 2-1 AET.

SENIOR

Quarter-finals: Putney Town v Gladesville 6-0, Liverpool OI v Blacktown AG 7-0, Central Coast v UTS 1-0, Blacktown v Shoalhaven 4-0.

Semi-finals Sept 26: Putney Town v Liverpool OI Kareela Park 8pm. Semi final Sept 27: Blacktown v Central Coast Cawarra Park 8.30pm.

Final Oct 1: Valentine Park 3pm.

ADELAIDE WHISPERS

PORT Adelaide United is calling for applications for its coaching position for next season.

John Spanos took over the role with just three weeks of the past season remaining after Ivan Zafran's departure.

He is invited to lodge his application with any others by the October 16 annual meeting.

"The new committee will make any decision on the new coach," said chairman Len Alagich.

Port's Yugoslav trio of Goran Dordevic, Miodrag Cvetanovic and Zlatko Zvekic has returned home.

Zvekic reportedly is keen to stay there but the other two could return to SA if Port so desired.

"There is no doubt they helped us avoid relegation," said Alagich.

"We were so badly hit with broken legs to Baines and Ninos, the suspension to Glusevic and goalkeeper Migliaccio being overseas that their arrival certainly gave us a boost. We did well to fight to stay up."

The club will hold its presentation evening on Friday, September 29 with its colts' presentation the next night at the club.

Professionalism pays off

ABOUT twelve months ago I was seated next to John Quayle, executive director of the NSW Rugby Football League at the Annual Yardley Awards at the Sydney Wentworth Hotel.

"Congratulations on what you have done with your game," was my first comment to Quayle, a first grade league player during my own playing days.

"I wish we had your game to market," was his response to which I replied: "So do I."

Quayle told me what we all know anyhow, that League's biggest problem is that it has nowhere to go internationally and he really envied the opportunities our game had on the global scale.

"Soccer has the world, we only have England, NZ, France and Papua New Guinea."

All that aside, the point is that Rugby League has done a first class job with what it has available.

Not so many years ago the game was on the ropes, gone for all

ADELAIDE City is looking for a new home near Hindmarsh Stadium where it will play games next season.

The club is involved in delicate discussions with Hindmarsh Council to try to secure land in the boom area to build new clubrooms.

City is expected to sell its present club set-up at Olympic Sports Field.

HELLAS has been hit by a late injury plague.

Star midfielder-striker Jimmy Keramidas will take no part in the NSL playoffs after aggravating a groin injury.

Nick Stamatopoulos, too, is out with an instep injury.

MODBURY faced a dilemma should they have reached the West End Premier Cup final.

Defender Duane Gray was due to be married on the rescheduled Cup final date and most of his teammates were to be wedding guests.

Modbury was looking at forfeiting the final; fielding a well below strength side or disappointing many wedding guests.

Hellas ended the speculation, though, by beating underdone Modbury 6-0 in the Cup semi-final.

money yet Quayle and his new breed have turned it all around and now it has never been in better shape.

I mention all this here as a means of introducing an excellent article which appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald the day before the Rugby League grand final, written by John Huxley.

The article is compulsory reading for our leaders, administrators and clubs.

It is a blue print for what soccer has to do, yet seldom looks like doing.

John Quayle's comment that he wishes he had our sport is an indication of our game's potential.

But as with playing, potential is useless unless realised.

While we continue to have understaffed central offices, clubs without one full time administrator, piddling promotional budgets and virtually no marketing plan we are all wasting our time.

But back to the Sydney Morning Herald article and the very clear message for Australian football, which we will reprint next week.

— JOHN WARREN

MELITA EAGLES PARRAMATTA SOCCER CLUB

★ QUALITY PLAYERS ★

born after August 1, 1971 are required to trial for NSL Youth League expected to kick off early November 1989.

Trials will be held at the Federation grounds at Parklea Tuesday October 3 and 10 at 6.30pm.

For enquiries ring 645 4595, 519 8074 or 631 9050.

Bundesliga crisis

THIS could be the most momentous season in the 26 years of the West German Bundesliga.

After the well-nigh revolutionary proposals submitted by the League committee had been rejected, soccer is looking anxiously to the Soccer Federation, which appointed its own commission to prepare a blueprint for West Germany football, mainly designed to arrest the alarming drop in attendances.

The total of 5.6 million spectators (average 18,292) in 1988/89 was the fourth worst since the foundation of the League in 1963.

Everybody is agreed that something must be done to lift interest in league football to former heights and help the clubs, many of whom are struggling financially, to keep their professional status.

When the last season ended, the business manager of champions Bayern Munich and

their former star Uli Hoeness said optimistically: "We shall be taking our cue from Milan, Real Madrid, or Napoli."

It was meant as a declaration of intent, but sounded hollow in view of the Bundesliga's season's record.

Never before had there been so few goals scored — only 852, while 17 goals were enough for Thomas Allofs, now playing for Strasbourg in the French Second Division, and Roland Wohlfarth to share the scoring title — the lowest-ever total as well.

By contrast, the 30 sendings off were nearly a record (31 were registered in 1985-86). The 931 cautions were a new mark (previously 815).

Sadly the season was pale, performances colourless, no more than average and with few exceptions not very entertaining.

The new TV deal which guarantees the clubs a massive \$24 mil-

lion per season (paid mainly by private cable channels), could yet prove to be the mathematical miscalculation which killed the golden goose.

It is chiefly thanks to the widespread broadcasts of live games that the fans are staying away from the stadia in droves.

The League stepped in and tried to launch a bold reform programme, but clearly some of the suggested formulas are not the remedies needed.

Despite all the problems some of the clubs still manage to dig deep into the financial reserves.

The turnover on the transfer market reached an astonishing \$40 million during the recent off-season.

**AUSTRALIAN
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—COSTA RICA—

The 1989 Costa Rican World Cup team, sitting pretty atop the standings in the CONCACAF qualifying group. Costa Rica are on 11 points, Trinidad and Tobago on 9 and the USA have 7 points following their 1-0 win over El Salvador. The Americans, however, have three games in hand, Trinidad & Tobago only one — against the USA.

World Cup Update

Turkey's hopes of qualifying for the World Cup finals slumped when they were beaten 2-1 by Iceland in Reykjavik last Wednesday.

Portugal, on the other hand, improved their chances of qualifying when they beat Switzerland 2-1 in an away game.

In Central and North America, the USA scored a precious 1-0 win against El Salvador in neutral Honduras. They are still only in third place, two points behind Trinidad and Tobago but have two games in hand.

Last week's results:
WORLD CUP EUROPE:
Group 3 — Iceland 2 (P. Petursson 2) Turkey 1 (F. Ucar); Group 7 — Switzerland 1 (K. Turkylmaz) Portu-



gal 2 (Futre, Aguas).
WORLD CUP CONCACAF:
El Salvador 0 USA 1 (Perez).
FRIENDLIES: Italy 4 (R. Baggio 2, A. Carnevale, H. Illiev o.g.) Bulgaria 0; Yugoslavia 3 (D. Brnovic, R. Prosinecki, D. Pancev) Greece 0; Spain 1 (M. Gonzalez) Poland 0.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN SCENE

Uruguay qualifies for finals

BY MARIO ETCHART

URUGUAY became the fifth team to be assured of a place in next year's World Cup finals following a 2-0 win over Peru in South American qualifying Group 1, which was screened live by SBS Television.

Striker Ruben Sosa was the Uruguayan hero with both goals, drilled home with his left foot in the 45th and 58th minutes.

The packed Estadio Centenario in Montevideo erupted at the final whistle and the Uruguayan players celebrated joyfully on the pitch.

Peru were reduced to 10 men after 32 minutes when midfielder Juan Reynoso was sent off by Brazilian referee Jose Roberto Wright for hitting Pablo Bengoechea in the face.

The Peruvians had held out well until then against a nervous Uruguayan team which had to win to qualify as a draw or a loss would have seen Bolivia through to Italy.

But once Sosa, who plays for Lazio in Italy, scored two minutes into injury-time in the first half, the result was never in doubt.

Uruguay took the field without two key players — Enzo Francescoli and Perdomo — who were not released by their European clubs, Marseille and Genoa.

Uruguay won the group with six points, the same as Bolivia, but their goal-difference was better. Peru finished pointless after losing their four games.

Paraguay out

Ecuador sensationally defeated Paraguay 3-1 at Guayaquil to enable Colombia to win Group 2, also last Sunday.

Paraguay's loss enabled Colombia to win the group, but they will have to play-off with Israel — at home on October 29 and in Tel Aviv on November 12 — for a berth in the finals.

Paraguay did manage to score first when Messa netted in the 18th minute, but after that nothing went right for the 1986 World Cup finalists.

Aguinaga equalised in the 25th minute and there was no further scoring until the 72nd when Mardetti made it 2-1 for Ecuador.

Aviles added the final nail to Paraguay's coffin seven minutes

from full-time, sending thousands dancing in the streets of Bogota, Cali and Medellin in Colombia.



Boca Juniors' Claudio Marangoni in action against his former club, Independiente, in the Argentine First Division.

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER

- The Dutch FA has banned the sales of alcoholic beverages at all league matches following incidents at several First and Second Division games last season.
- Feyenoord, of Rotterdam, have signed Tata-banya's Hungarian international midfielder, Jozsef Kiprich, for two years in a \$700,000 deal.
- Boca Juniors striker Jorge Comas has been sold to Vera Cruz, of Mexico, for \$500,000.
- Argentine supremo Carlos Bilardo will set up residence in Milan in November in order to be close to the European-based players of his national team. Argentina are expected to field up to nine "exiles" in their 1990 World Cup starting line-up.
- Dynamo Kiev suffered the humiliation of finishing last in the tournament they recently organised. Fluminense, of Brazil, won the trophy, ahead of their countrymen from Bangu. AS Roma beat Kiev in the play-off for third place. The tournament was a flop, only attracting 20,000 over two days.
- EL GRAFICO, the Argentine sports weekly, boasted in a recent issue that for the first time this season Argentina had more players in the Italian First Division than Brazil (10 versus nine).
- Venezuelan soccer players have it tough. In a country where baseball is king, the round ball code plays second fiddle. When the World Cup squad competed in Brazil and Argentina, the players had to crowd four to a hotel room and only had one alternate strip. They were also only paid \$150 per appearance.
- Servette Geneva's Swiss international midfielder Walter Palombo has been transferred to English club Millwall.
- River Plate spent a near-record \$1 million to strengthen their team for the new Argentine season by signing or re-signing players of the calibre of Medina Bello, Centurion, Lopez, Zamora, Hernan Diaz, Borghi, Segovia and Batistuta.
- Former Porto star and Portuguese international Miguel Arcanjo has died in Lisbon at the age of 57. A native of Angola, Arcanjo won two titles and a cup winners' medal with Porto.
- Jens Duve, captain of newly-promoted Bundesliga club Sankt Pauli, is out for the remainder of the season after damaging left knee ligaments at training.
- Hubert Meunier, the captain of Luxembourg's national team for the past six years, has retired at the age of 30.
- Feirense is the only First Division team in Portugal not to field Brazilian players. No less than 84 Brazilians operate in the top Portuguese league.
- Argentine striker Sergio Silvano Maciel has signed a three-year \$500,000 contract with West Germany's newly-promoted FC Homburg.
- Paraguay have sacked their Argentine coach, Eduardo Lujan Manera. His successor is Cayetano Re, who coached Paraguay to a berth in the 1986 World Cup finals.
- Argentine president Carlos Menem has become an honorary member of crack Yugoslav side Red Star Belgrade, accepting an offer from the Yugoslav ambassador to Argentina.

LEGACY

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Scottish relief as Mo Johnston survives test

A young Catholic named Maurice Johnston walked off a Glasgow soccer pitch in one piece a month or so ago and Scottish soccer breathed a collective sigh of relief.

Like a modern Daniel in the lion's den, Johnston had just played for the "wrong" side in the notorious Glasgow derby that pits the traditionally all-Protestant Rangers against pro-Catholic Celtic.

The 26-year-old former Celtic star is the first Catholic to play for Rangers and police, aware of the potential for trouble, turned out in force for the sell-out match at Celtic Park.

Scotland's football hierarchy also feared that any violence under the glare of the world media could lead to the current ban on English clubs in Europe being applied north of the border.

In the event the 55,000 fans behaved noisily but well during the 1-1 draw and Johnston slipped quietly from the stadium to his secret address under the protection of a personal bodyguard.

His fears are hardly misplaced in a country where soccer is seen, often through a semi-drunken haze, as an acceptable substitute for nationalistic or religious wars.

But the arrival three years ago of Graeme Souness to manage Rangers heralded a fundamental change in the tradition-bound world of Scottish football.

The former Liverpool player, pledging to choose Rangers players on talent alone, astounded Scot-

land in July by signing Johnston from France's Nantes for about \$2 million.

The vicious rivalry is rooted in the intertwined history of Scotland and Ireland — the

fled their homeland after the famine of the 1840s.

The club was in fact founded by Irish priests to aid local charities and, while never barring Protestants, attracted most of its talent from Scotland's 800,000 Catholics — a sixth of the population.

Since the turn of the century the two giants have dominated Scottish football, occasionally scaled the heights of Europe and supplied more than enough folk drama for even the notoriously argumentative Glaswegians.

In the clubs' heyday, crowds of 130,000 regularly turned up at derby games, though the 1971 Ibrox disaster when 66 people were killed in an accidental crush, put paid to the era of vast attendances.

Ironically, Celtic enjoyed their finest spell — winning the European Cup in 1967 — under the guidance of their first Protestant manager, the late Jock Stein.

Stein, who gained a grudging admiration from even the Rangers fans, used to poke gentle fun at the bizarre aspects of the rivalry with a tale that suddenly no longer holds true.

"When I was at Celtic, if we had to choose between two equally promising youngsters — one Catholic and the other Protestant — I would always sign the later ... That way we at least knew the other wouldn't end up at Rangers," he said.

— REUTER



MO JOHNSTON

Not only was Johnston a Catholic, he was also a controversial ex-Celtic player who had looked set to rejoin his old club only a few weeks previously before the deal was scuppered by a last-minute tax wrangle.

In addition, the flamboyant blond striker had long been top of the Rangers fans' "hate list" after provocatively crossing himself when sent off during a typically ill-tempered Glasgow derby in 1986.

Souness, who has spent more than \$15 million in attracting English and overseas stars to Ibrox, braved out the criticism of Protestant diehards, many of whom burned their season tickets and scarves in protest.

"It's make-your-mind-up time for the bigots," he said.

"Rangers is too big a club to be limited to signing only a percentage of the population."

Anyone unversed in the history of the two Glasgow rivals — known as the "Old Firm" — would be bewildered by the unique atmosphere generated at a Rangers-Celtic clash.

It is downright frightening.

An almost palpable wave of hatred flows from the packed terraces as the blue-clad Rangers supporters curse the Pope and chant songs about obscure 300-year-old battles while the Celtic fans wave Irish republican flags and scream abuse about the queen of England.

"sporting" equivalent of the hatreds that have helped fuel the sectarian killings only a few miles across the sea in Northern Ireland.

Rangers were founded in 1887 and quickly assumed their status as a Protestant institution after moving to the Govan Dock district of Glasgow.

The dockers had close family and cultural links with the Ulster Protestants whose Scottish ancestors had settled in the province in the 17th century.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the city, Celtic Football Club was firmly establishing its identity among the impoverished Irish immigrants who had

Manchester United snare Ince, Wallace



Paul Ince

MANCHESTER United finally completed the signing of West Ham's Paul Ince, ending weeks of uncertainty about the midfielder's future.

Manager Alex Ferguson refused to reveal details of the deal, but said: "We have made a deal which is practical to both player and club. I'm very pleased that it is over."

United are believed to have offered around \$1.6 million to West Ham, plus a staggering \$10,000 a match for the player.

United were set to pay \$4 million for Ince last month but the deal was put on ice after the club doctor diagnosed that Ince had a pelvic problem.

He was subsequently passed fit by an independent specialist

and by West Ham's surgeon and United's desire to sign a midfielder player has been increased by the achilles injury suffered by their England star Neil Webb.

Manchester United also signed Danny Wallace from fellow First Division club Southampton for \$2.5 million.

The deal brought manager Alex Ferguson's spending last week to over \$6 million.

The London-born Wallace, who signed a five-year contract, joined Manchester United before their home match against Millwall, but not in time to make his debut alongside Ince.

Sale in doubt

BRITISH property tycoon Michael Knighton's \$41 million takeover of Manchester United looks in jeopardy.

The 37-year-old millionaire has admitted he cannot fulfil a promise to complete the deal, following the withdrawal of two backers and the US bankers Citicorp.

He has until November 30 to find the cash, but Lebanese-born United director Amer Midani was ready to

challenge Martin Edwards' sale of half the club's shares to Knighton for \$20 million.

"Michael Knighton only has a conditional contract and there are a lot of explanations due," said United's second largest shareholder, who made a bid for the First Division club earlier this year.

To add to Knighton's problems, the Bank of England's City takeover panel was watching developments.

BID FOR BRATSETH

NEWLY-promoted Crystal Palace, still reeling from their 9-0 hammering by Liverpool, are bidding for Norway's best player (pictured above on national team duty).

They want to sign national team captain Rune Bratseth.

Bratseth, who plays for Werder Bremen in the West German Bundesliga, has been rated by European experts as Norway's only world-class defender.

He scored the goal that gave Norway a 1-1 draw with France in their World Cup qualifier three weeks ago.

'RAMBO' MAY JOIN DERBY

DERBY COUNTY are still determined to sign John Fashanu.

However, they have no intention of paying the \$3 million Wimbledon are asking for "Rambo".

Manager Arthur Cox is convinced Wimbledon's price will come down.

When it does, he says Fashanu will be Derby-bound to link up with Dean Saunders to add striking power to their attack.

SPURS WANT BRYAN ROY

TOTTENHAM coach Terry Venables is preparing to go Dutch in his search for a replacement to Chris Waddle, who now plays in France for Marseille.

Venables has his eye on Ajax's young Bryan Roy, the man many consider as a new Ruud Gullit.

It would, however, cost Tottenham more than \$4 million to get their hands on the Suriname-born midfielder.